

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



I Would Gather Thee by Liz Lemon Swindle

March 13, 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
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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

Vocalist: 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 *Into the Woods My Master Went* by David Ashley White

Call to Worship

One: The Lord is our light and our salvation:

All: whom shall I fear?

One: The Lord is the stronghold of our life:

All: of whom shall I be afraid?

One: One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

All: to seek God and to wait for the Lord in faithfulness

One: Let us seek the Lord's face in this time of worship:

All: We will honour God's presence in our prayers and our praises!

****Hymn: Stand up and bless the Lord**

411

- 1. Stand up and bless the Lord;
God's people now rejoice;
stand up and bless the Lord your God
with heart and soul and voice.**
- 2. Though high above all praise,
above all blessing high,
who would not fear God's holy name,
and praise and magnify.**
- 3. Oh for the living flame
from God's own altar brought,**

**to touch our lips, our minds inspire,
and wing to heaven our thought.**

- 4. God is our strength and song;
now is salvation ours.
God's love in Christ we now proclaim
with all our ransomed powers.**
- 5. Stand up and bless the Lord;
the Lord your God adore;
stand up and bless God's glorious name
henceforth forevermore.**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God ever creating, ever loving, ever leading. When things around us feel chaotic, you are peace. When so much we hear is not reliable, your word is truth. When we are paralysed by fear and anxiety, your presence is freedom. When we feel bereft and helpless, your love gives us hope. God, you are the Source of all things good. So we bring you our prayers and our praise this day, for you reveal yourself to us in the goodness of creation, in the love and mercy of Christ, and through the energy and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. We worship you, O God, ever Three and ever One, world without end.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of compassion, we are creatures who seek our own comfort. We confess that we prefer our own plans to your purposes. We shrink from costly discipleship and put our own interests first. Forgive our fleeting commitment and the times we have indulged our own complaints. Have mercy on us. Inspire us with the energy

to do your will and serve our neighbours in the example of Christ, your Son and our Lord.

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

God is love, and that God's perfect love casts out fear. Those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. So ground your hope in this Good News: God's perfect love abides in you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Scripture

First Reading: Philippians 3:17–4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 27 (with refrain 2)



The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh —
my adversaries and foes —
they shall stumble and fall.

**Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.**

One thing I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:

**to live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in the Lord's temple.**

For you, Lord, will hide me in your shelter
in the day of trouble;

You will conceal me under the cover of your tent;
you will set me high on a rock.

**Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer sacrifices in the Lord's tent
with shouts of joy;**

I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!

“Come,” my heart says, “seek the Lord’s face!”

Your face, Lord, do I seek.

Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.

Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,

O God of my salvation!

**If my father and mother forsake me,
the Lord will take me up.**

Teach me your way, O Lord,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.

**Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they are breathing out violence.**

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord;

**be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!**

Second Reading: Reading

Luke 13: 31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will

not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

Reader: This is the word of the Lord,

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: The Lord’s my light**

15

- 1. The Lord's my light and saving health;
who shall make me dismayed?
God is the stronghold of my life:
who shall make me afraid?**
- 2. Though wars arise and armies camp
against me, I'll not fear;
I will stand firm and confident:
I know that God is near.**
- 3. One thing I asked of God the Lord,
and will seek to obtain,
that all days of my life I may
within God's house remain;**
- 4. that I the beauty of the Lord
may worship and admire,
that I in God's most holy place
may reverently enquire.**
- 5. In evil, troubled days, my God
will hide me and shelter me,
and raise me high upon a rock
above my enemy.**
- 6. Now I will offer sacrifice
for all God’s saving grace,
with melody unto the Lord
and joyful shouts of praise!**

****Hymn: Softly and tenderly**

640

1. **Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me:
patiently Jesus is waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.**

Refrain

**"Come home, come home,
ye who are weary, come home";
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling, O sinner, "Come home!"**

2. **Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me? *Refrain***
3. **O for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me;
though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me. *Refrain***

**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.**

****Hymn: I feel the winds of God today**

1. **I feel the winds of God today;
today my sail I lift,
though heavy oft with drenching spray
and torn with many a rift;
if hope but light the water's crest,
and Christ my bark will use,
I'll seek the seas at his behest,
and brave another cruise.**
2. **It is the wind of God that dries
my vain regretful tears,
until with braver thoughts shall rise
the purer, brighter years;
if cast on shores of selfish ease
or pleasure I should be,
Lord, let me feel thy freshening breeze,
and I'll put back to sea.**
3. **If ever I forget thy love
and how that love was shown,
lift high the blood-red flag above;
it bears thy name alone.
Great pilot of my onward way,
thou wilt not let me drift.
I feel the winds of God today;
today my sail I lift.**

Jessie Adams 1863-1954, Trustees of the Fellowship Hymn Book

Our Events

Monday, March 14 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.

Tuesday, March 15 ~ 3:00 p.m.

Finance and Maintenance Committee will meet in the Hall.

Thursday, March 17 ~ 3:00p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, March 18 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study is continuing the study of Tobit by teleconference

Wednesday, April 6 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Taizé Service. All welcome,

Ukraine Crisis Appeal

Thousands of refugees from across Ukraine are desperately trying to get to safety in other countries. The invasion of Ukraine has created a humanitarian crisis. This devastating conflict has already displaced hundreds of thousands of people. The most urgent needs are for food, water and shelter. To help respond quickly to the escalating situation, PWS&D is receiving donations for Ukraine. As a member of ACT Alliance and Canadian Foodgrains Bank, we are well placed to provide urgently needed food and non-food support. ACT Alliance members have already begun setting up refugee support points and sending relief supplies to Ukraine. Canadian Foodgrains Bank members are also planning a response with urgently needed food assistance.

Please mark your donations: **PWS&D Ukraine**

Mission Moment

In Afghanistan, Fatima had always dreamed of attending school. However, most schools were far from her home and, as a girl, it was unsafe for her to travel to them. At the age of 10, Fatima's dreams finally came true. She learned about a school near her village and persuaded her father to enroll her. "After completing my studies, I will become a teacher and become a role model for other girls and women in our village," Fatima shared. Though the current political situation in Afghanistan has left many children uncertain about their futures, Fatima prays that she will be able to continue her education beyond primary school.



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