

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



April 3, 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 *Andantino Espresso* by Samuel Maykapar

Call to Worship

One: God says to us: I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers flow in the desert.

All: The LORD does great things for us, and we rejoice.

One: God says to us: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

All: The LORD does great things for us, and we rejoice.

One: God says to us: I am about to do a new thing.

All: The LORD does great things for us, and so we worship God with songs of joy and prayers of thanksgiving.

****Hymn: O God beyond all praising 448**

- 1. O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs can not repay, for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end. We lift our hearts before you and wait up on your word; we honour and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.**
- 2. Then hear, O gracious Saviour; accept the love we bring, that we who know your favour may serve you as our king, and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still: to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

O God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all life, we come to you today with grateful hearts, uplifted by the return of spring, days lengthening, temperature warming. We praise you for your creation and its reliable rhythms. We praise you, too, for Christ and his ministry that we seek to continue; we seek the light of the hope he offers. Break into these days of turmoil and uncertainty with the mercy and grace we meet in Jesus. By the power of your Spirit, lighten our hearts in this time of worship. And so we praise you, O God of Holy Trinity, and offer you all glory and honour, this day and every day, now and evermore.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, we gather in your name today, aware that you keep moving closer and closer to the cross. We confess it is not easy to follow your story nor your footsteps. Your willingness to give yourself inspired some to give of themselves, while others hesitated or criticized. We confess we often struggle to decide what to give, whom to help. We can be critical of those in need and those who help them. Forgive us when we look for reasons not to share, and excuse ourselves from acting generously, as you did.

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

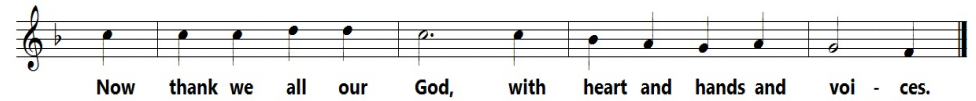
Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ — And Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace.

Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16–21

Thus says the Lord,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
 or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
 the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
 the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 126 (with refrain 1)



When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

then it was said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”

**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.

**May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.**

**Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.**

Second Reading: John 12:1–8

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, “Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” (He said this not because he cared

about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord,

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: God, you touch the earth with beauty 667**

1. **God, you touch the earth with beauty;
make my heart a new;
with your Spirit recreate me,
pure and strong and true.**
2. **Like your springs and running waters,
make me crystal pure;
like your rocks of towering grandeur,
make me strong and sure.**
3. **Like your dancing waves in sunlight,
make me glad and free;
like the straightness of the pine trees,
upright let me be.**
4. **Like the arching of the heavens,
lift my thoughts above;
turn my dreams to noble action,
ministries of love.**
5. **God, you touch the earth with beauty;
make my heart anew;
keep me ever by your Spirit
pure and strong and true.**

Sermon Costly Perfume Priceless Love

Prayers of the People

Anthem **Prayer of St Richard of Chichester** by Roland E. Martin

O holy Jesus, merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly, day by day.

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: God whose giving knows no ending 663 to tune 262**

1. **God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.**
2. **Skills and time are ours for pressing
towards the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the Church made one.**

**Now direct our daily labour,
lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.**

- 3. Treasure too you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred;
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.**

Benediction

Postlude *Allegro Moderato* by Samuel Maykapar

Recommendation on Masking

The Session of St Giles, in consultation with the Finance & Maintenance Committee, is recommending that members and adherents of the congregation should continue to wear masks when attending services at St Giles, in our efforts to protect those who may be immunocompromised. This recommendation will be reviewed by the Session on a monthly basis.

Our Events

Monday, April 4 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.

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

Taizé Service. All welcome.

Thursday, April 7 ~ 3:00p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, April 8 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study is continuing the study of Tobit by teleconference

Friday, April 15 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Our **Good Friday Service** will be a shared service with the Bytown Community Church. Members of both congregations will take part and Pastor Dan Reid will be giving the sermon.

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

Amerika Tharu is a 52-year-old carpenter from Nepal. In early 2020, he developed a fever, and his face began swelling. Amerika sought help at two different hospitals, where he was misdiagnosed and underwent expensive treatment that didn't address the problem. His poor health affected every area of his life, including his career. Eventually, his son brought him to see a doctor who suspected that Amerika might have leprosy and sent him to the Presbyterian World Service & Development-supported Shining Hospital. The hospital's medical staff confirmed the diagnosis, and Amerika received the treatment he needed, allowing him to return home and resume his livelihood.

