

ST GILES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



April 24, 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 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

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Minister: The Rev. Paul Wu 613-276-2551 paulwu55@yahoo.ca

Church Administrator: Ruth Ann Semple (for Patricia Brush)
Office hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 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 *Adagio from Symphony 4* by Charles Widor

Call to Worship

One: In life, in death, and in life beyond death,

All: The Risen Christ is Lord.

One: In hope and discouragement, in fear and in faith,

All: The Risen Christ is Lord.

One: Of the poor and broken, of the sinner and the debtors,

All: The Risen Christ is Lord.

One: In Church and community, in our hearts and our homes,

All: The Risen Christ is Lord, and so we gather to worship in his name.

****Hymn: Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet 466**

- 1. Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet,
praise the Lord with the harp and lute,
praise the Lord with the gentle-sounding flute.
Praise the Lord in the field and forest,
praise the Lord in the city square,
praise the Lord any time and anywhere.
Praise the Lord in the wind and sunshine,
praise the Lord in the dark of night,
praise the Lord in the rain or snow or
in the morning light.**

**Praise the Lord in the deepest valley,
praise the Lord on the highest hill,
praise the Lord; never let your voice be still.**

- 2. Praise the Lord with the crashing cymbal,
praise the Lord with the pipe and string,
praise the Lord with the joyful songs you sing.
Praise the Lord on a weekday morning,
praise the Lord on a Sunday noon,
praise the Lord by the light of sun or moon.
Praise the Lord in the time of sorrow,
praise the Lord in the time of joy,
praise the Lord every moment;
nothing let your praise destroy.
Praise the Lord in the peace and quiet,
praise the Lord in your work and play,
praise the Lord everywhere in every way.**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, we rejoice in this new day you have made. We praise you for the abundant life with which you bless us, and for all the beauty that surrounds us as spring takes hold again. We praise you for your Son Jesus, and the power of new life promised in his resurrection. We praise you for your Spirit at work in human history, to restore and redeem our hope with that power of new life. God of steadfast love, we worship you with the Spirit and the Son, and claim your gift of new life, even in the face of any doubt or danger within the world you love. All praise, honour and glory be yours, O God, now and evermore. Amen.

Unison Prayer of Confession

O God of might and mercy, in raising Jesus from the dead, you showed us your power to defeat all that brings fear and sorrow to our lives. In his resurrection, Jesus promised to be with us and go ahead of us. Yet we confess we are sometimes uncertain about your promises. We doubt the power of resurrection for our own lives. Upheaval and anxiety eat away at our peace. Forgive us when we struggle to trust you, to trust your goodness and your steadfast love for us.

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 and believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free from sin and sorrow. In Jesus Christ, God offers us the gift of shalom. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill your hearts this day.

Scripture

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any

human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Responsive Reading: Psalm 150 (with refrain 1)



Praise the Lord!

Praise God in the sanctuary;

praise God in the mighty firmament!

Praise God for mighty deeds;

praise God according to surpassing greatness!

Praise God with trumpet sound;

praise God with lute and harp!

Praise God with tambourine and dance;

praise God with strings and pipe!

Praise God with clanging cymbals;

praise God with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and
Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is
and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord,

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: I danced in the morning / Lord of the dance 250**

- 1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
At Bethlehem I had my birth.**

Refrain:

**Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

- 2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on:**

Refrain

- 3. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
the holy people said it was a shame.**

**They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and they left me there on a cross to die.**

Refrain

- 4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They whipped my body, and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on.**

Refrain

- 5. They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he.**

Refrain

Sermon The Alpha and the Omega

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: At the dawning of salvation**

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- 1. At the dawning of salvation;
in the morning of the world,
Christ is raised, a living banner
by the love of God unfurled,
Through the daylight, through the darkness,
Christ leads on his great array:
all the saints and all the sinners
he has gathered on his way.**
- 2. He is risen in the morning,
he is risen from the dead;
he is laughter after sadness,
he is light when night has fled.**

He has suffered, he has triumphed,
life is his alone to give:
as he gave it once he gives it
evermore, that we may live.

3. For the glory of salvation
in the dawn of Easter day
we will praise you, loving Father;
we rejoice to sing and pray
with the Son and with the Spirit
Lead us on, your great array,
saints and sinners celebrating
your triumphant love today.

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: Thine be the glory 258**

1. **Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes, where thy body lay.**

Refrain:

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

2. **Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.**

Refrain

3. **No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors,
through thy deathless love:
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.**

Refrain

Benediction

Postlude *The City Gates* by Modeste Moussorgsky

Presbyterian College

We would like to bring the ministry of the Presbyterian College (www.presbyteriancollege.ca) to your attention, particularly its upcoming Convocation on May 5, and the '3Days of Encouragement Conference' on May 24-27. The College continues to be a centre of excellence in training pastoral and lay leaders to serve in our denomination and beyond. St. Giles has made a significant commitment to fundraise for the College. We invite you to support this worthy ministry by giving generously (please mark in the giving envelop: For Presbyterian College, or For PC).

Session News

The Session of St. Giles has resolved, at its regular meeting of April 20, to **add two additional elders** to the session, using the 'ballot of nominees' method (Book of Forms 132.2.1). The **nominating period** is now open whereby the professing members of the congregation could nominate elder candidates, in writing and made by at least two persons, either separately or together. The nominating period will end by May 8 (over at least three successive Sundays). The Session will also be in contact with candidates in the near future, to discern their willingness to serve if elected. We invite all to keep this process in your prayer.

Our Events

Monday, April 25 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour will meet by teleconference.

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

Choir Practice

Friday, April 29 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study will look at the Farewell Discourse of Moses (Deuteronomy 29 -31) by teleconference.

Sunday, May 8 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Camp Sunday with Mark Hamilton (director of Gracefield Christian Camp) as guest speaker.

Sunday, May 15 ~ 10:30 a.m.

St. Giles' **Anniversary Sunday**, with the Rev. Dr. Blair D. Bertrand as guest speaker.

Recommendation on Masking

The Session of St Giles continues to recommend that members and adherents of the congregation wear masks when attending services at St Giles, in our efforts to protect those who may be immunocompromised.

Mission Moment

When we give to Presbyterians Sharing, we are expressing our faith. Through the words that we use, the decisions we make and the actions we take, we proclaim God's love, hope and grace in the world God loves. **Together, as The Presbyterian Church in Canada, we are participating in Christ's mission in Canada and around the world.** We share the good news of the gospel, strengthen congregations and equip leaders. We journey toward healing and reconciliation, collaborate with ecumenical and interfaith partners, advocate for human rights, and work to restore hope. When we put our gifts into God's hands, God does remarkable things!

