

St Giles Presbyterian Church



*Bronze sculpture by Evgeniy Vuchetich,
at the exterior ground of the United Nation.*

Advent 1 ~ November 27, 2022

St Giles Presbyterian Church

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.

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: Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Music Director: Heather Rice 613-563-1409 gowans978@gmail.com

Vocalist: Katie Gratton

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: *Allegro from Sonata in A* by J.S. Bach

Welcome

Call to Worship (based on Advent liturgy 2022 by PWS&D)

Reader 1: We are people of hope.

Reader 2: God longs for a day when weapons will be replaced with tools for rebuilding.

People: We see your goodness and signs of new life all around us.

Reader 1: The first candle of Advent reminds us that we are called to live as people of hope.

Reader 2: We light this candle to remind us to see God's hope shining in our world.

(Light the candle of hope)

Reader 1: Let us pray:

All: Holy One, help us to walk in the light of God. May our lives reflect the warmth and wonder of this flame. Make your church in our community. Amen.

Hymn: A Candle is Burning by Sandra Dean

(tune: Away in a Manger)

- 1. A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
a candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

- 1 The advent of our God
With eager prayers we greet;
With humble hearts we shall go forth,
God's glorious gift to meet.**

- 2 The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set all people free.**

- 3 O Zion's daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King.
Let not your faithless heart despise
The peace he comes to bring.**

- 4 As Judge, on clouds of light,
Christ soon will come again,
And all the scattered saints unite,
In heav'n with Christ to reign.**

- 5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone;
The old self all be put away,
The new self all put on.**

- 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever One,
Through all eternity.**

Prayer of Adoration

Almighty and everlasting God, you hold all our days in your hands, and embrace us in your everlasting arms. In a tired and violent world, you are hope. In a hectic and busy world, you are peace. In a cold world, you are comfort. In Jesus Christ, you bring love into this world, and call us to embody his love in all we do and say. In our worship this day, we offer you our love and loyalty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Make us one in worship and service, so that the world will see your hope at work in us and through us, making all things new.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of hope, we confess that we often prefer accepting half-truths and pleasing ideas, rather than your challenging word. We praise our own cleverness rather than your wisdom. We have exploited others for our benefit and used the earth without a thought for its wellbeing. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct who we shall be through the mercy of Jesus Christ 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

Receive the Good News in hope. With great mercy, God forgives what we have confessed and offers us new life in Christ. Trust in the hope that you are forgiven and that, with God, new things are possible.

Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1–5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Responsive Reading: Psalm 122 (with refrain 1)



I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

**Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem — built as a city
that is bound firmly together.

To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord,
as was decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

**For there the thrones for judgment were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

"May they prosper who love you.

**Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers."**

For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you."

**For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.**

Second Reading: Second Reading Matthew 24:36-44

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: *The Lone, Wild Bird* by Henry McFadyen

Sermon The Day is Coming

Prayer of the People

****Hymn: Come, thou long-expected Jesus**

110

- 1. Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**
- 2. Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever;
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

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: People, look east 125**

- 1. People look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able;
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the guest is on the way.**
- 2. Furrows, be glad; though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength, the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the rose is on the way**

- 3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the bird is on the way.**
- 4. Stars keep the watch. When night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the star is on the way.**
- 5. Angels announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.**

Benediction

Postlude *Romance* by Ludwig van Beethoven



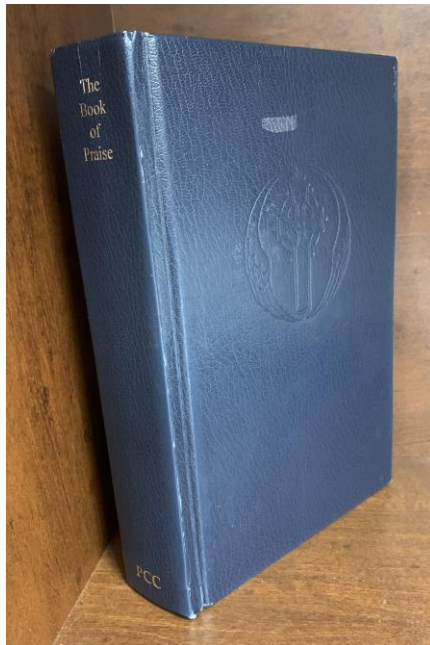
We thank Aditi Magdalena for playing the violin this morning.

A Request from Session

The Session of St Giles is discerning if the congregation should act as the community sponsor in support of Bonaventure Bigirimvano's effort to resettle his daughter and her family as refugees to Canada. If you would like to know more or to participate in this project, please contact Rev. Paul Wu for details.

Bulletin

Now that the hymn books are back in the pews, we are changing the format of the bulletin so lyrics from the hymn book will no longer be printed. The change will take effect on December 11. For those joining by Zoom, please contact the office to obtain a copy of the hymn book. office@stgilesottawa.org 613-235-2551



Our Events

Monday, November 28 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Thursday, December 1 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, December 2 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study, please read Ezekiel Chapter 22.

Sunday, December 11 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Communion Service

Saturday, December 3 ~ 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Presbyterian Women are organizing a **Food Bazaar**. All things sold will be food or items pertaining to food. There will be a bake table, deli, coffee and muffin corner, food gifts, and a table of donated baking utensils and cookbooks. We will be needing many **helpers** to work the tables and provide security, set-up and clean-up. Most of all we would love your baking, cooking, preserves, and baking utensils you could provide...also decorating and some signs. For other information please ask any of the women. Let's make a wonderful bazaar with help from the whole church family. Thanks to all, Kaye Tate 613-521-5625

Wednesday, December 21 ~ 7 p.m.

Blue Christmas – A way to recognize the holiness of the season for those who, for any reason, are not feeling joyful.