

St Giles Presbyterian Church



January 1, 2023

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 Administrators: Patricia Brush and Policena Wanja

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: *Neiges* by André Gagnon

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

**All: Praise the Lord, sun and moon;
give praise, all shining stars!**

One: Give praise, fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

All: Give praise, hills and mountains.

One: All people together, let us praise the name of the Lord and declare God's glory in heaven and on earth.

All: Let us worship God!

****Hymn: Standing at the portal**

811

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

How majestic your name in all the earth, O Lord our God! The heavens reflect your glory and the earth proclaims the wonder of your loving care. In the fullness of time you crowned creation with the birth of your Son. Give us eyes to see your gifts, hearts to embrace all creation, and hands to serve you every day of our lives. Continue your work of salvation among us and form us into a new creation that, as we behold the vision of a new heaven and a new earth, we may sing your glory.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of new beginnings, you wipe away our tears and call us to care for one another. You have come to us in Christ Jesus to open a path to new life, but we fall back on what is familiar. We confess that we are in love with our old ways and our resolution for change is all too short. Forgive us when our resolve wavers and shine your light on the way we can follow into your future.

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

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Be assured of God's forgiveness. Make a new start this year, be at peace with God, secure in the knowledge of God's love.

Scripture

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1–13

To everything *there is* a season,

A time for every purpose under heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die;

A time to plant, and a time to pluck *what is* planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal;

A time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh;

A time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones,

and a time to gather stones;

A time to embrace,

and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to gain, and a time to lose;
A time to keep, and a time to throw away;
A time to tear, and a time to sew;
A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
A time to love, and a time to hate;
A time of war, and a time of peace.

What profit has the worker from that in which he labours? I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied. He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end. I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labour — it *is* the gift of God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 8 (with refrain 1)

Second Reading: Revelation 21:1–6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: In the bulb there is a flower 674**

Sermon In Its Time

Prayers of the People

****Hymn: One more step along the world I go 641**

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

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

Prayer of Dedication

****Hymn: Come in, come in New Year** (tune 267) **808**

Benediction

Postlude *Votre Bonté Grand Dieu* by Claude Balbastre



Our Events

Monday, January 2~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Thursday, January 5 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday January 6, 2023 ~ 10 a.m.

Bible Study will resume by teleconference. Please read

Donation Envelopes

A decision was made to end the purchasing of donation envelopes, but we will continue with the practice of using an identifying number so that your donation can be anonymous in the plate but known to the bookkeeper.

If you have forgotten your number, please contact the church office.

Moving forward, please use up any envelopes you have on hand from previous years, even decades back. If you need more envelopes, they will be available at the back of the church