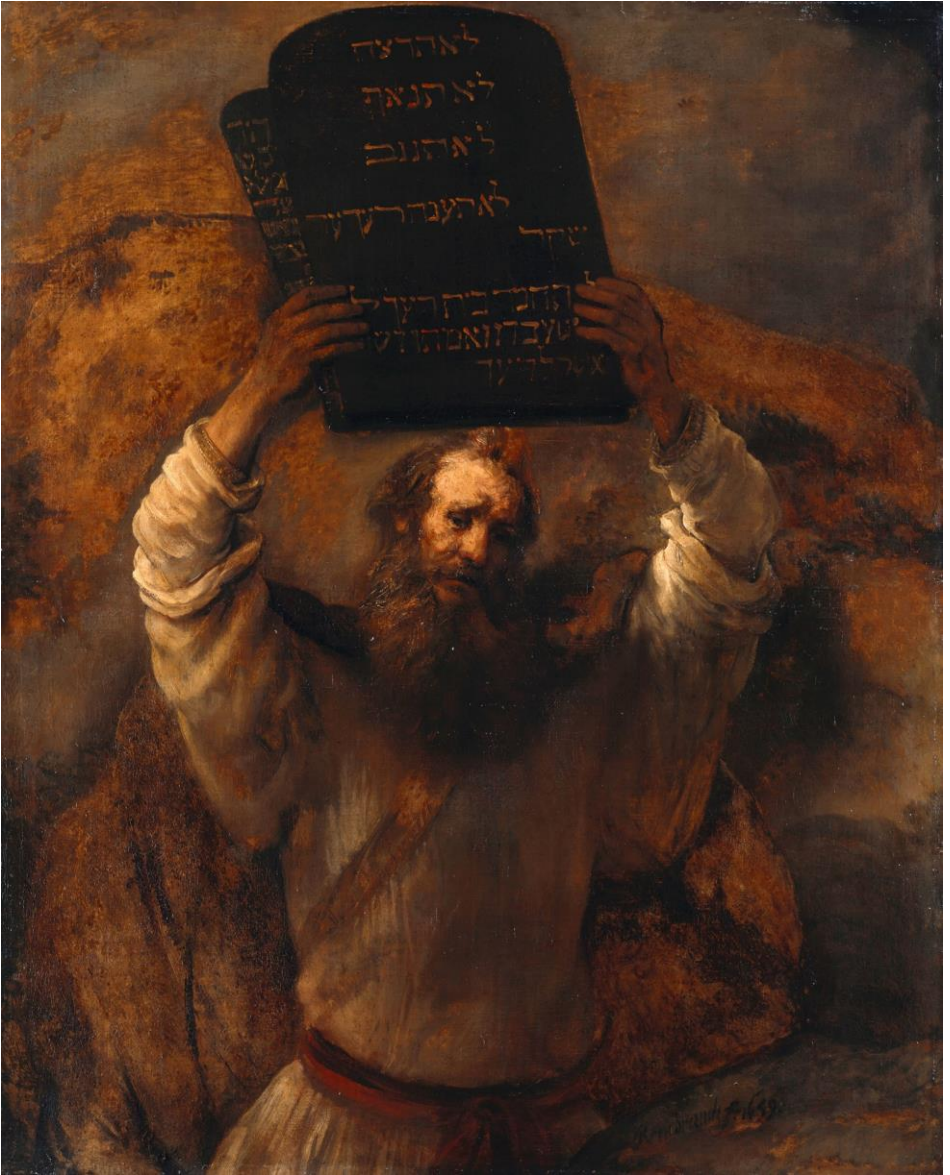


St Giles Presbyterian Church



*Moses with the Ten Commandments,
Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, 1606-1669.*

February 12, 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 an accessible 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

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: *Pavane* by Gilbert M. Martin

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: How blessed are we when we meditate on God's teachings;

All: and when we desire God with our whole hearts.

One: Let us praise God with attentive minds and eager spirits,

All: for we are God's servants, working and praying together.

One: So let us worship God and praise God's holy name.

All: Let us seek God's path and listen for God's call.

****Hymn: Sing a new song unto the Lord**

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Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of all life and each life, you are light for those who seek to know you. You are strength for those who seek to serve you. You reveal truth to those who thirst for you. In this time of worship, we pause in your presence, resting from our work and worries, from our duties and distractions. We come to enjoy your presence and praise you for the gift of life in Christ and in creation. Receive our prayers and praise this day, for we open our hearts in love and loyalty to you, O God, our All in All.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God who is All in All, you call us to choose life and walk in your ways, but we are tempted by short cuts and easy solutions. You ask us to turn from anger and settle our differences, but we cling to grievances and point fingers at others. You ask us to be true to our word, but we prefer to keep everyone happy. Forgive us, O God; and give us courage to follow the paths you set for your people.

Assurance of Pardon

God invites us to choose life and find the blessing that comes from following God's ways. Accept God's

gift of forgiveness and choose new life. Forgive one another and discover that peace of Christ is already in you. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15–20

“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.

Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Responsive Reading: Psalm 119:1–8 (*with refrain x*)

Second Reading: Matthew 5:21–37

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder,’ and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your

right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: Sing them over again to me 498**

Sermon But I say to you

****Hymn: Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning 378**

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.**

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

...

we lift our hearts in joyful praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We praise you, most holy God,

...

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Gracious God,

...

almighty God, for ever and ever.

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**

Breaking the Bread / Blessing the Cup

Prayer After Communion

Announcements

****Hymn: Now let us from this table rise 556**

(tune 217)

Benediction

Postlude *Allegro alla Marcia* by Johannes Brahms
(arr. Homer Whitford)

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 Session on a monthly basis.

Pancakes and Ash

St Giles is partnering with Bytown Community Church to put together 'Pancake Tuesday' dinner (Feb. 21) and Ash Wednesday service (Feb. 22). We hope these events will foster closer cooperation between the two churches, engage the wider community, and mark the beginning of Lent.

Annual Reports

For those with the responsibility, your Annual Reports must be in the office by February 15. Email is preferable.

St Giles Events

Monday, February 13 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Thursday, February 16 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, February 107 ~ 10 a.m.

Bible Study will continue the study of Ezekiel.

Please read chapter ???.

Tuesday, February 21 ~ 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Pancake Tuesday in partnership with Bytown Community Church.

Wednesday, February 22 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday in partnership with Bytown Community Church.

Sunday, February 25 ~ after service

Annual Meeting

Mission Moment

In many small rural communities in Ghana, lay preachers, evangelists and catechists play a crucial role. Under the direction of a district minister, who has many congregations under their care, lay leaders provide much-needed spiritual leadership. While they share a deep commitment to their call to ministry and service in the church, many have not received formal theological training.



To equip these lay leaders with helpful tools for effective ministry, the Presbyterian Church of Ghana established three Lay Training Centres (Tamale, Ramseyer and Nsaba), which receive support through Presbyterians Sharing.