

# St Giles Presbyterian Church



*Transfiguration, by Raphael, 1483-1520;  
Romano, Giulio, 1499-1546.*

**February 19, 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.

We thank Aditi Magdalena for being our vocalist this morning while Katie Gratton, our regular vocalist is on a holiday.

Prelude: *Recit de tierce* by François Couperin

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: The Lord rules over the earth in majesty and mystery.

**All: We praise God's awesome name!**

One: The Lord loves justice and calls us together in equity.

**All: We come to honour God's purposes with love and loyalty.**

One: The Christ of glory shines in this place.

**All: With the Spirit's power, we will lift our voices in prayer and praise!**

**\*\*Hymn: Glory be to God the Father**

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Children's Story

## Prayer of Adoration

God of grace and wonder, you reveal your presence in so many different ways. Your glory glistens on snowy mountain tops and sparkling streams. Your mercy moves in classroom conversations and bedside prayers. Your words of comfort frees us from fear; Your voice can transform our doubts. We come before you in worship to dwell in your goodness and seek your truth, as we offer all praise and honour to you, with Christ and the Holy Spirit, One God, mighty and merciful, now and always.

## Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of mystery and mercy, we confess we sometimes mistake our own desires for your will. We are reluctant to hear a word that challenges our assumptions. We seek assurances that we are right, and resist insights from the experience of others. Forgive us, O God. Shape our will to yours, so we can dwell more closely with you and with one another.**

## 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

While it is true that we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. God offers us mercy and newness of life this day, so be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

## Scripture

First Reading: Exodus 24:12–18

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days;

on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 99 (*with refrain 1*)

Second Reading: Matthew 17:1-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn: Tis Good, Lord, To Be Here**

*(by J. A. Robinson, tune # 661)*

- 1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!  
Your glory fills the night;  
Your face and garments, like the sun,  
Shine with unborrowed light.**
- 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,  
Your beauty to behold,  
Where Moses and Elijah stand,  
Your messengers of old.**
- 3 Fulfiller of the past!  
Promise of things to be!  
We hail your body glorified,  
And our redemption see.**
- 4 Before we taste of death,  
We see your kingdom come;  
We long to hold the vision bright,  
And make this hill our home.**

**5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!  
Yet we may not remain;  
But since you bid us leave the mount,  
Come with us to the plain.**

Sermon Good to be Here

Prayers of the People

**Hymn We have come at Christ's own bidding 187**  
*(tune # 371)*

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: Lord Jesus, you shall be my song 665**

Benediction

Postlude *Dialogues sur Les Grands Jeux* by

François Couperin



## **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.

## **Community Kitchens**

Centretown Churches Social Action Committee is seeking volunteers to supervise at community kitchens that will be hosted weekly by several members of our organization so that one or two neighbours who lack cooking facilities can prepare takeout meals for their families. The task involves providing a brief kitchen orientation and light supervision of participants who will do their own cooking. The time commitment would be 4 hours per week, every two weeks. If you can help, please contact Martha Musgrove at [musgrom@hotmail.com](mailto:musgrom@hotmail.com)

## **St Giles Events**

**Monday, February 20 ~ 11:00 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour** by teleconference.

**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.

**Thursday, February 23 ~ 5:30 p.m.**

**Choir Practice**

**Friday, February 24 ~ 10 a.m.**

**Bible Study** will continue the study of Ezekiel. Please read chapters 47 and 48.

**Sunday, February 25 ~ after service**

**Annual Meeting**



## Mission Moment

Climate change, conflict and COVID-19 have combined to create a global food crisis where 50 million people in 45 countries suffer from acute hunger. Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D), with Canadian Foodgrains Bank and ACT Alliance, is responding in South Sudan, Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia—countries where hunger needs are worsening daily. This crisis has disproportionately adverse effects on women and girls, who make up 60% of those affected by food insecurity. Without proper nutrition, women can experience higher mortality rates for themselves and their children.



**With support from the church, PWS&D distributes food packages with essential nourishing items and provides families with cash assistance, helping ensure that families are fed.**