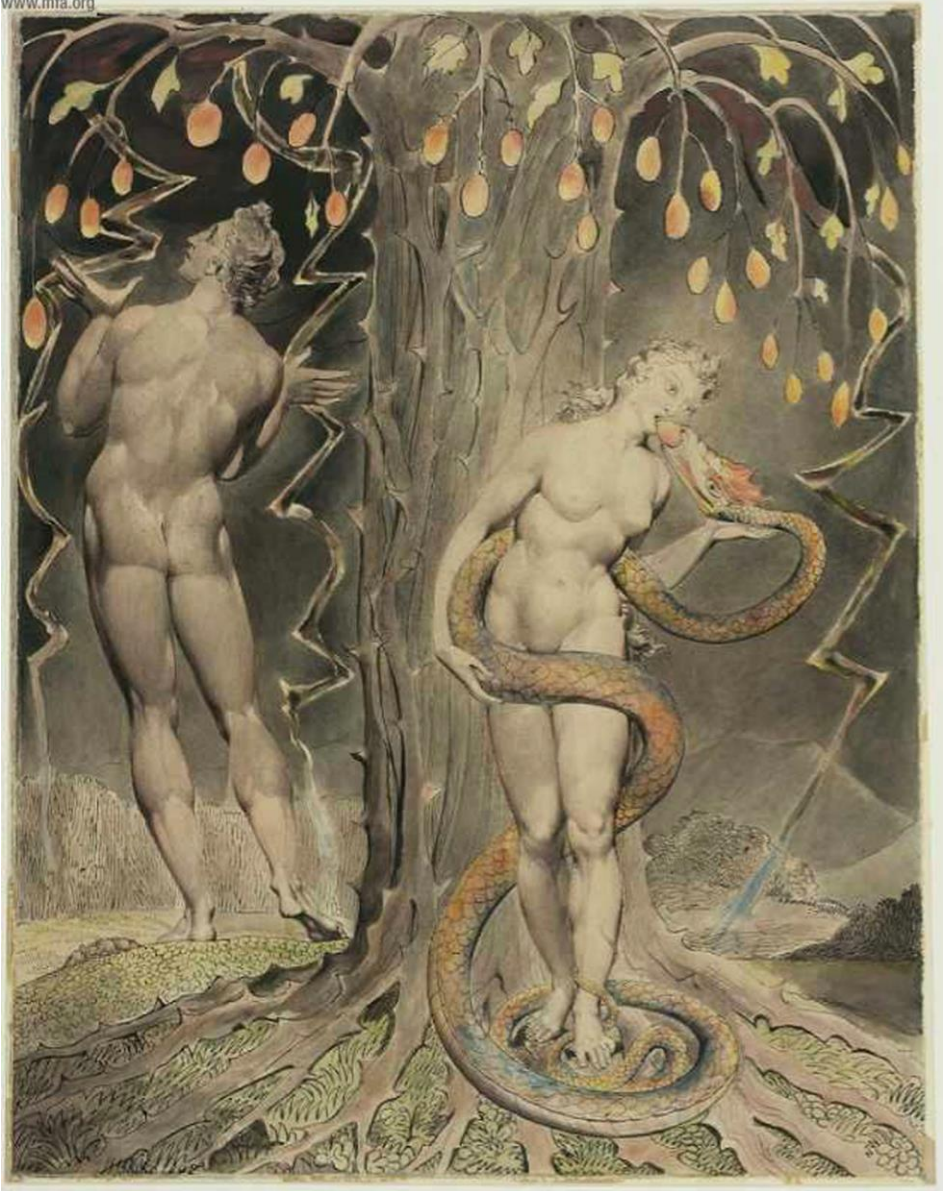


# St Giles Presbyterian Church

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*The Temptation and Fall of Eve (Illustration for Paradise Lost, by John Milton), by Blake, William, 1757-1827*

**February 26, 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 and Rosemary Bann

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: *Steal Away* by Ellen J. Lorenz

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: O God, you are a hiding place for us;

**All: you preserve us from trouble.**

One: Let the faithful offer prayer and praise to God,

**All: for in times of distress, God is with us.**

One: The Lord will teach us the way we should go;

**All: God's steadfast love always surrounds us.**

One: So let us be glad in the Lord and rejoice in worship!

**All: We will sing for joy with psalms of praise.**

**\*\*Hymn: The glory of these forty days 192**

Children's Story

## Prayer of Adoration

God, our Creator and Companion, your love is as fresh as the new day, rising like the sun to guide us. In Jesus Christ, you walk with us to challenge and encourage us, revealing our weakness yet offering us hope. We praise you for such gifts! In this time of worship, open us to the new possibilities you create for the world you love. With the power of the Holy Spirit, energize us to embrace the future, trusting in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Unison Prayer of Confession

**God our Creator and Companion, you created us to be your partners in creation, but we confess we are not happy being partners. We think we know better, and prefer to have our own way. We like to manage the world without your guidance, and sometimes against it. We are often tempted to satisfy our own desires without counting the cost to others, or to the earth itself. Lord, have mercy on 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

The Apostle Paul declared our hope, asking the question: "Who is in a position to condemn?" The Answer? "Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us." Trust this Good News. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace.

## Scripture

First Reading: Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7

Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in

the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' "

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 32 (*with refrain 2*)

Second Reading: Matthew 4:1–11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, 'and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' " Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn: Forty days and forty nights 197**

Sermon: You Will Not **Surely** Die

Prayers of the People

**\*\*Hymn: How blest are they whose trespass 17**

(Tune # 479)

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering (Invitation)

**Doxology:** (Hymn 830)

**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: God whose giving knows no ending 663**  
(Tune #262)

Benediction

Postlude *In Praise and Prayer* by Alice A. Braynard



### **Prayer Group**

St. Giles is starting a new prayer group, on March 1 (the first Wednesday of every month), at 5:00 pm. We will be using the method of Lectio Divina (praying through the Scripture) adapted for small group. Come and join us (in the banquet hall).

*"For My house will be called a house of prayer for all people", declares the Lord (Isaiah 56:7; Matthew 21:13)*



## **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**

**Sunday, February 25 ~ after service**  
**Annual Meeting**

**Monday, February 27 ~ 11:00 a.m.**  
**Coffee Hour** by teleconference.

**Wednesday, March 5 ~ 5:00 p.m.**  
The **Prayer Group** will be meeting in the Banquet Hall; please join us.

**Thursday, March 2 ~ 5:30 p.m.**  
**Choir Practice**

**Friday**  
**Bible Study** will take a break until further notice.

## **Mental Health and Wellness:**

If you or someone you know needs support, go to [OttawaPublicHealth.ca/mentalhealthandwellness](https://OttawaPublicHealth.ca/mentalhealthandwellness) for resources.



## **Joining the Meeting, Conference Call or Bible Study:**

1. Before the start time, call toll-free 1-888-884-4539.
2. Enter the passcode number which is 7455703#.
3. Make sure to press the # after the number.
4. You will be asked to say your name. Say it. Then press #.
5. You will then be connected.

You may find it preferable to put your phone on speaker.



## 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.**