

St Giles Presbyterian Church



*Knight, Leonard, 1931-. **Salvation Mountain**, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.*

March 5, 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.

Prelude: *God of Heaven and of Earth*

by Siegfried Karg-Elert

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Into life's challenges and questions
comes the Mystery of God,

All: and God's truth opens our eyes.

One: Into our routines and rituals
walks the presence of Christ.

All: and God's love brings healing and hope.

One: Into our traditions and conclusions
blows the wind of the Spirit,

All: and God's people are born from above.

One: We gather in the name of Jesus
to encounter God's grace and glory.

**All: Let us worship God with open hearts and
minds.**

****Hymn: Sing praise to God who reigns above 327**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of majesty and mercy, Christ, both Lord and Servant, Spirit of new life, your mystery embraces the vast reaches of the universe and yet you are present with us in the course of our daily lives. With even the tiniest spark of your wisdom illuminated the greatest complexities. With the smallest gesture of your love, you renew our hope. Deepen our sense of your holy presence this day. Assure us that your love will never let us go. And so we offer our praise and our prayers this day to you, Holy God, Holy One and Holy Three, with humble hearts and faith that seeks understanding.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mystery and mercy, we confess that we prefer simple certainty to seeking for deeper understanding. We settle for what we know, ignoring our doubts and questions. Forgive us when our faith falters because what we think no longer satisfies. Open our eyes to the truth you hold out to us in Christ, and give us courage to rethink what we have assumed about you and your love for the world.

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, that from now on, we regard no one from a human point of view. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! Thanks be to God for love that gives us all a new start this very day!

Scripture

First Reading: Genesis 12:1–4

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 121 (*with refrain 1*)

Second Reading: John 3: 11–17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person."

Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"

Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn: As when the Hebrew prophet raised 189**
(tune # 330)

Sermon

Prayers of the People

****Hymn Christ's is the world**

758

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: We've a story to tell to the nations 765**

Benediction

Postlude *With Heart and Soul* by Siegfried Karg-Elert

Passing of Doris Margaret Dean

We at St Andrew's Richmond regretfully announce the passing of Doris Margaret Dean on Monday, February 13, 2023 at the age of 92.

Doris was a long-time elder, choir member, and Pastoral Care committee member at St Giles Presbyterian Church and latterly for nine years at St Andrew's Richmond.

An intimate farewell was held at St Andrew's for friends. The family will most likely hold an inurnment at Capital Memorial Gardens at a later time.

Thanks to the Rev. Dr Wayne Menard and close friends Mary Gemmell and Sharon Stewart who were weekly visitors and caregivers to Doris over the past 5 years. Having no family in the Ottawa area, she was cared for and loved by many friends all her life. We will miss her smiling face terribly.

Community Kitchen

Starting March 7th Centretown Churches Social Action Committee (CCSAC) are opening their churches to community members as a space to prepare and cook meals for families and individuals who don't have kitchen space. Call to book 613-236-0617, Glebe St James United Church every Tuesday starting at 11a.m., 12p.m., and 1p.m. Call to book 613-234-3261, First Baptist Church every Wednesday starting at 11a.m. Come cook at our place.

Donation Envelopes–Reminder

We are having some problems in the office. To give accurate tax receipts, it is important that you:

- If you are using up your old envelopes, please enter the current Sunday's date.
- If you are using other envelopes, please remember to change the date and correct the envelope number. If you have forgotten your envelope number, please call the Church Administrator at 613-235-2551 or email office@stgilesottawa.org

Church Administrator

Finance & Maintenance Committee is pleased to announce the hiring of Rosemary Bann as the incoming Administrator of St. Giles. She has a diploma in office administration from the Algonquin College, and 10+ years of experience in related field. She also volunteers as the Treasurer of the Ottawa Independent Writers group, and has a working knowledge of accounting and bookkeeping. Rosemary will be supervised by Pat for a one month training period.

St Giles Events

Monday, March 6 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Thursday, March 9 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday

Bible Study will take a break until further notice.

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

Session Meeting



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

In Pakistan, Gauri learned how to cut and sew at an early age. As an adult, this knowledge allowed Gauri to contribute to her family's income by working as a seamstress. After her husband was killed in an accident, Gauri's income was not enough to provide for her family on her own. Gauri was selected for a **PWS&D** project that provides emergency food assistance to families in need, as well as longer-term support through small business training and development. The food aid the family received made it possible for Gauri to save a portion of her monthly income that would have otherwise been spent on food. With the money she saved, Gauri was able to further her child's education and stock her tailoring shop with more materials.



**Presbyterian
World Service
&
Development**