

# St Giles Presbyterian Church



*Bronze sculpture of the Canadian missionary George Leslie Mackay, at the pier of Tamsui, Taiwan.*

**April 30, 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: *I Must Tell Jesus* by Van Denman Thompson

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: God, our Shepherd, offers us abundant life.

**All: God, you are with us!**

One: God, our Shepherd, leads us by still waters.

**All: God, restore our souls!**

One: God, our Shepherd, walks with us through every dark valley.

**All: God, we will not be afraid!**

One: God, our Shepherd, we praise for your goodness and mercy with us every day.

**\*\*Hymn: Lord of light, whose name and splendour 769**

(tune of 410)

Children's Story

## Prayer of Adoration

God of love, we come trusting that your love has the power to defeat evil in the world. Jesus shows us that your love defeats even the power of death. You are with us through the darkest valleys so that we are not afraid. We worship you with glad hearts, praising you in the name of our Risen Lord, praying with the breath of your Spirit in us. Renew our strength and courage to face whatever each day holds, so our lives will bring you honour and glory now and always.

## Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of love, we confess that too often we let the events around us shatter our trust in your love. When terror strikes and innocents fall, we wonder if love can defeat violence. When truth gets lost among misleading claims, we wonder if love can prevail over lies. Forgive us, God, when we lose our trust in the power of your love so soon after it raised Jesus from death's grip.**

## 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. Amen**

## Assurance of Pardon

The Apostle Paul asked: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword? No! he declared. Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us rejoice that, no matter what is happening around us, God's gracious and forgiving love will never let us go.

## Scripture

First Reading: Acts 1:1-8

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water,

but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Responsive Reading: Psalm 23 (*with refrain 1*)

Second Reading: Acts 2:37–47

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the

apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn: Jesus' hands were kind hands**

**631**

Sermon For All, Far or Near

Prayers of the People

**\*\*Hymn: Where cross the crowded ways of life**

**760**

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

**Doxology:**

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

**765**

Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Tune in Bb*

by Roy Brunner



## **St Giles Events**

**Monday, May 01 ~ 11:00 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour** by teleconference.

**Wednesday, May 3 ~ 5:00 p.m.**

**Prayer Group** (Lectio Divina) will be meeting in person at St Giles. All are welcome

**Thursday, May 04 ~ 5:30 p.m.**

**Choir Practice**

**Friday, May 5 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

**Bible Study** by teleconference. The Book of Job (8)

**Saturday, May 6, ~ 10:30 a.m.**

**Memorial service for Robert (Bob) Fourney.**

**Sunday, May 7, ~ 10:30 a.m.**

Anniversary Sunday Service

**Wednesday, May 17 ~ 7:00 p.m.**

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## **Anniversary Sunday**

St. Giles is celebrating its 98th Anniversary on the Sunday of May 7. We are pleased to have invited Rev. Shaun Seaman as the guest preacher. Shaun is a long time serving and recently retired minister from Trinity Presbyterian Church, at Carp Ontario.

After the service a display table will be set up in the basement, showcasing a selection of St Giles' history.

## Condolences

We would like to express our heartfelt condolences on the passing of **Dr. Pauline Brown**, on April 1, 2023. Pauline had been a long time member of St. Giles, who was initially commissioned by the Women's Missionary Society (WMS) for a four-month posting to India. A few months became a 55-year-long ministry working with the Bhil people under the Church of North India, primarily in the area of health care and education. In 2001, Pauline received the Order of Canada for her dedicated service, and the church recognized her ministry with the degree of Doctor of Divinity. She retired in Jobat, India, where she was beloved and respected. Pauline had returned to Canada a number of times, and visited St. Giles whenever she could. She will be sadly missed by the congregation.

Memorial service for Pauline at St. Giles is tentatively scheduled for June 17, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. Further update to come.



## **Gracefield Christian Camp**

There are still some **camperships** available, through the Presbytery of Ottawa, for children and youth to attend **Gracefield Christian Camp** and Retreat Centre this summer. The deadline for applications is **May 1, 2023**.

Please submit any applications or address any questions to **Meg Patterson** directly at the address on the **application form** (see the Welcome table at St Giles during Sunday service).

## **Community Announcements**

### **Centretown (Emergency) Community Food Centre**

**New name** and new **location**. They are dropping the word emergency, adding the word Community and moving from Bank Street to **370 Catherine Street**.

Food donations can be made during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays at the west side entrance of the new building starting May 1, 2023.

### **Knitted Hats for Charity**

Did you know that **Pat makes 200+ knitted hats a year for charity**? She knits entirely from donated yarn. If you have a yarn stash and know you have some ends of balls you won't be using, please consider bringing them to church and placing them in the office. No end of ball is too small!

## Mission Moment

**When we give to Presbyterians Sharing, we express our faith, proclaiming God's love, hope and grace through the decisions we make and the actions we take.** Together, we support congregations, theological colleges, camps, presbyteries, synods and specialized ministries as they nurture disciples and share our faith. We help leaders explore new models of ministry, and we help people experiencing barriers to traditional social engagement overcome them in innovative ways. Through mission staff and grants, we accompany international mission partners. We live out God's call for justice by collaborating with ecumenical and interfaith partners to speak out against injustice, advocate for human rights and care for creation around the world.



God does remarkable things with the gifts we give.



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