

St Giles Presbyterian Church



James Jacques Joseph Tissot, **Abram's Counsel to Sarai**, gouache on board, 1896-1902

June 11, 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: *Adagio* by Pietro Nardini

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Rejoice in the Lord, you people of God!

All: We will sing songs old and new to praise our God.

One: God loves righteousness and justice;

All: We will do our best to serve God faithfully.

One: The earth is full of God's steadfast love.

All: We come to worship with glad hearts, to offer our love and loyalty

****Hymn:** Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet **466**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

You, O God, are overflowing with love, infinite in kindness, incomparable in glory. You are the source of all good things. In you, all things work together for good. Your presence breaks into our lives in many

ways and you touch us with wonder. In this time of worship, we offer you thanks with our prayers, praise with our hearts, and honor with our lives, this day and every day, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of all our journeys, you lead us day by day. Sometimes the going is smooth and we follow gladly. But sometimes the going gets tough. We face obstacles and choices. We're unsure which way to turn. Forgive us when we hesitate, and give us the courage to take a step into your future.

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture

First Reading: Genesis 12:1–9

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. Abram took his wife

Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 33:1–12 (*with refrain 1*)

Second Reading: Romans 4:13–25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to

the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore "it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** To Abraham and Sarah

478

Sermon Reckoned as Righteousness

****Hymn:** Word of God, across the ages

497

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.**

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. Amen**

****Hymn:** All who hunger, gather gladly

534

Breaking the Bread / Blessing the Cup

Prayer After Communion

****Hymn:** With the Lord as my guide

574

Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Tune* by Georg F. Handel



St Giles Events

Monday, June 12 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Wednesday, June 14 ~ 5:00 p.m.

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

Thursday, June 15 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, June 16 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Job (15-17)



Archival Committee: An Update

The congregation is aware that the Archival Committee has assembled an inventory of St. Giles historical items, some located at the church, and some located at the Ottawa Archives. Our challenge now is to organize this material (records, bulletins, reports, photographs, anniversary events, the Exhibition Booth, etc.) by time period. We are in the process of hiring a student from a local university to assist us. Developing a digitized, accessible storage will be important.



In addition to the inventory at the church and at Ottawa Archives, many of our homes have significant historical St. Giles information. We would appreciate having members consider donating some of your holdings to



the church, thereby enriching what we already have. If you can assist, please bring your items to the church office. Should you wish further information, please contact a

member of our Committee (Rev. Wu, Isaac Ives, Kate Ferguson, Don Tate). Thank you.

Community Announcements

Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program for 2023

Pastoral care helps to develop skills to become a compassionate and sustaining presence with others, and to support one another in ministry. OPCTP would like to highlight its up coming fall courses for 2023, in Basic Course, Advanced Course and a Continuing Education Event. For further information there are brochures on the Welcome table of St Giles or visit

www.ottawapastoralcare.com.

St Giles Art Exhibition ~ African Textiles

The next St. Giles art exhibition will feature textiles from Africa. They will be on display from July through to September. If you have any lengths of cloth from any country in Africa that we could select from for display in the Sanctuary, please drop it/them off at the church office with your name attached or contact Laura Brandon at laura@laurabrandon.ca to arrange a transfer time.

Thank you!

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

Prema and her five children live in the Umerkot district of Pakistan. After her husband's death, Prema found it very difficult to provide for her family, and severe drought throughout the district only brought more hardship. Her eldest son tried hard to find work so that he could help support his mother and siblings, but despite his best efforts, his job prospects were limited due to a physical disability. **A glimmer of hope came when Prema and her family were selected for a food assistance project run by Presbyterian World Service & Development's local partner.** The food aid that Prema's family has received through the project has helped them to become more resilient to future adverse events.

