

# St Giles Presbyterian Church



**August 13, 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 Administrator: 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 (Voluntary in C) by John Stanley

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to the Lord!

**All: We will tell the world what God has done.**

One: Let us bring praise to the name of our Maker.

**All: We will honour God's name with shouts of joy!**

One: Be mindful of all that God provides for us.

**All: Let us give thanks for all the wonders God has made!**

**\*\*Hymn:** When morning gilds the skies

**438**

Prayer of Adoration

Surprising and mysterious God, you come to us when we least expect it, calling us out of our routines and our plans, inviting us to follow Christ on a great journey of faith. We praise you for the many ways you comfort and guide us. In our moments of fear, you speak to us with words of reassurance. In our moments of doubt, you reach out your hand to save

us. In our moments of turmoil, you bring calm to the storm. We place our trust in you this day and every day, and worship you as our Redeemer and Saviour in the name of Christ, our Lord and friend.

### Unison Prayer of Confession

**Merciful and patient God, we confess that we still experience fear and doubt, even though you reach out to us with saving grace. You call us to live with courage and perseverance, yet we can give up too easily and opt for the safer route. You encourage us to be bold in our struggles for justice, yet we remain silent in the face of unfairness. Forgive us all the times we let you down. Renew our lives through your mercy and grace.**

### 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

Friends, brothers and sisters in Christ, now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Yet, faith is also a gift. For it is by

grace that we have been saved, through faith - and this is not from ourselves, but a gift of God. So let us know beyond doubt and accept deep in our hearts, that we are accepted, that we are loved and forgiven by God.

## Scripture

First Reading: Romans 10:5–15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

“The word is near you,  
in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Responsive Reading: Psalm 85:8–13 (*with refrain 2*)

Let me hear what God will speak,  
for the Lord will speak peace to the people,  
to the faithful, to those who turn to God in their  
hearts.

**Surely salvation is at hand for those who fear God,  
that glory may dwell in our land.**

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

The Lord will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.

**Righteousness will go before the Lord  
and will make a pathway for God.**

## Second Reading: Matthew 14:22–33

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn:** With the Lord as my guide **574**

Sermon Water Walking Faith

Prayers of the People

**\*\*Hymn:** Precious Lord, take my hand **675**

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:** Lord all power **626**

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all. **Amen.**

Postlude *Andante (Voluntary in C)* by John Stanley



## St Giles Events

**Monday, August 14 ~ 11:00 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour** by teleconference.

**Wednesday, August 16 ~ 2:00 p.m.**

Worship Committee meeting

**Thursday, August 17 ~ 7:00 p.m.**

**Choir Practice**

**Sunday, August 20 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

Summer Joint Service, observing Holy Communion.

**Wednesday, August 23 ~ 7:00 p.m.**

Session meeting



## Condolences

It is with regret that we learn of the passing of Marilyn Elizabeth Brien, on July 12, 2023, faithful member of St. Giles. Our condolences go out to William, Kim and Shelley and the rest of the family. The funeral service was held at the Central Chapel of Hulse, Playfair & McGarry on July 19, presided by the Rev. Paul Wu. May God be merciful and watch over the family.



## **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**

### **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](mailto:laura@laurabrandon.ca) to arrange a transfer time.

Thank you!

## Mission Moment

Palestinians living in the Occupied Territories know that Ecumenical Accompaniers (EAs) don't have much power to stop the occupation. But they are grateful for the protective presence of EAs at checkpoints, refugee camps, schools and remote villages where shepherds watch their flocks. In response to an appeal from local church leaders, the World Council of Churches created the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel in 2002. Supported by Presbyterians Sharing, the Rev. Jeanie Lee recently served three months in Bethlehem, witnessing life under occupation, monitoring human rights violations, and listening to stories of Palestinians to share with Canadians upon her return.



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The Presbyterian Church in Canada