

St Giles Presbyterian Church



The symbol of the "*burning bush*" was officially approved as the logo of the Presbyterian Church in Canada at the 140th General Assembly. This stylized version has been in use since 2018.

September 03, 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: Patricia 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: *Pastorale*

by G. Sammartini

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to God and tell of God's gifts.

All: We will sing praises for all that God has done.

One: Let your hearts be joyful!

All: We will seek God's presence continually.

One: Call to mind God's wonderful works.

All: We will always remember the blessings of God and glorify God forever!

****Hymn:** Deep in the shadows of the past

510

Prayer of Adoration

Holy, mysterious, eternal and ever-loving God, in you we live and move and have our being. You are the beginning and end of all things. In your depth, we find mystery. In your breadth, we know your tender embrace. We can only wonder at your love for us, for we are but a small part of your whole creation. Yet in Jesus Christ we meet your generous grace. In the

Holy Spirit, you move with us to inspire action and fill us with hope. Our thoughts cannot comprehend your wisdom, nor can our hearts fathom your mercy. So we worship you in humble praise, Holy God, ever Three and ever One, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Faithful and forgiving God, we confess we do not live out your love and mercy. We cling to old hurts and familiar habits. We nurse anger and envy. We are often so self-absorbed that we turn our backs on those in need. Forgive what we have been, amend who we are, and guide us toward who we may become according to your generous 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

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. Thanks be to God

that we can all make a new start through God's embracing grace. Amen.

Scripture

First Reading: Exodus 3:1–15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing

with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.' " God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

Psalms 105: 1–6, 23–26, 45b (*with refrain 1*)

O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name;

make known God's deeds among the peoples.

Sing to the Lord, sing praises;

tell of all God's wonderful works.

Glory in God's holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Seek the strength of the Lord;

seek the Lord's presence continually.

**Remember the wonderful works God has done,
the miracles and the judgments God has
uttered,**

O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,

children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.

Then Israel came to Egypt;

Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.

**And the Lord made the people very fruitful
and made them stronger than their foes,**

whose hearts the Lord then turned to hate his,
to deal craftily with God's servants.

**The Lord sent Moses, a servant of the Lord
and Aaron whom God had chosen.**

(All): Praise the Lord!

Second Reading: Matthew 16:24–28

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what

will they give in return for their life? "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** O God, your love's undying flame **529**
(tune of 162)

Sermon I am who I am

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Will you come and follow me **634**

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, dismiss us with your blessing
(tune of 482)

468

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 *Trumpet Tune*

by G.F. Handel



St Giles Events

Monday, September 04 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.



Wednesday, September 6 ~ 5:00 p.m.

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

Thursday, September 07 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, September 08 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Job (20-21)

Wednesday, September 13 ~ 12:30 a.m.

St Giles Women's Association in person meeting. Bring
your own lunch and bring a friend. **All Women
Welcome!**



Children Sunday School

The Children Sunday School is aiming to resume on September 10, 2023. This coming school year, we will be using a new curriculum "Sparkhouse" (from the Augsburg Fortress Press). It is a rich, collaborative, and multimedia resource that aims to spark within each child a glowing reminder of the Spirit of God. We are excited! Come join us.

From the 2023 General Assembly of the PCC

Congregations and individuals be commended for their support to PWS&D's overall mission through undesignated ("where most needed") gifts, which were received at a higher level than in 2021.

Appreciation be expressed to the congregations, individuals and groups who support Presbyterians Sharing with prayers, financial gifts, volunteering for committees and working group participating in programs and advocacy campaigns for justice.

Emergent Congregational Meeting

An emergent congregation meeting is called, by the authority of the Moderator, with the request from the Session and the Finance & Maintenance Committee, on Sunday of September 10, 2023, immediately after the worship service, to discuss the replacement of roof over the north-end of sanctuary.

Care Packages for Cameron Highlanders

As the regimental church of the Cameron Highlanders, St. Giles has long sent care packages, containing home baked goodies, to deployed soldiers of the regiment. This year we are sending 6 such packages. Those interested to help out, please contact Don Tate.

Choir

St. Giles Church has history of choral singing and choir members. During the COVID pandemic, singing was forbidden then allowed on a much smaller scale, often with masks. This hiatus meant that our muscles and lungs got out of shape, and voices do not sound as they did pre-pandemic. The only solution to this is to sing, sing, and sing. Singing is a very healthy activity. St. Giles is blessed with a dedicated choir. We need you to join us. No need to worry about ability, experience etc. **Please speak to me at coffee hour, or come out to rehearsal and give it a try. Heather Rice**

Opera is alive in the City of Ottawa!

Come see our very own Katie Gratton performing as part of the ensemble in OperOttawa's production of Giacomo Puccini's *Suor Angelica*, as well as singing an aria from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*. The performance will take place on Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 2:30 pm, at First Baptist Church, on the corner of Elgin and Laurier. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$25 for students, and can be purchased on Eventbrite or at the door. Please come and enjoy a wonderful afternoon of opera!

Mission Moment

Parbati Damai lives in Nepal with a spinal cord injury she endured after falling down a hill three years ago. During that time, her family took her to the local hospital for emergency treatment, where she underwent multiple surgeries and started using a wheelchair. However, with her husband and sons working during the day, she was often left at home in her wheelchair for 10 to 14 hours daily, causing pressure sores to develop on her body. Parbati's local health facility couldn't provide her with the help she needed, so they referred her to the Green Pastures Hospital for further treatment. There, with the support of PWS&D's partner, she received treatment and counselling free of charge. Parbati hopes to complete her treatment and return home soon.



The Presbyterian Church in Canada