

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Moses Receiving the Law, 10th century manuscript illumination, an outstanding representative of the Macedonian renaissance in Byzantine art.

October 8, 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: Harvest Blessings, Richly Showered

by Vernon Hoyle

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: God crowns the year with bounty;

**All: Pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy.**

One: Valleys deck themselves with grain,
and sing together for joy.

**All: So let us all praise God
for all God's goodness to us.**

****Hymn:** For the beauty of the earth

434

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of abundant love, when we hunger for fulfillment, you offer us the Bread of Life. When we thirst for your presence, you fill our cup to overflowing. You draw near to us in every place, at

any time. Holy One, in you our fervent prayers are answered, and our deepest desires fulfilled. So to you, O God, Creator, Christ and Spirit, we offer thanksgiving, honour and praise with all your people, here and everywhere, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you see our failures to keep your law of love. We have not always loved our neighbours as you taught. We find it impossible to love our enemies as Jesus asked. Forgive us all the times we failed to live out your love. Renew in us the courage to offer others the generosity of heart you have shown us in Jesus.

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, forever. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news! Anyone who is united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life emerges! Know that you are forgiven, and so have the courage to forgive one another.

Scripture

First Reading: Exodus 20:1–17

Then God spoke all these words, “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

You shall have no other gods before me.

“You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

“You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

“Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the

Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

"Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

"You shall not murder.

"You shall not commit adultery.

"You shall not steal.

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

Psalms 19: 7–10 *(with refrain 1)*

The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;

the decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple;

**the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;**

**the commandment of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**

the fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Second Reading: Isaiah 41:17–20

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** God's law is perfect

9

(to the tune of 670)

Sermon Sweeter than Honey, More Precious than Gold

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Open my eyes, that I may see

500

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:** Lead on, eternal Sovereign

743

(to the tune of 742)

Benediction

Postlude *Processional (Water Music)* by George F. Handel

'If I cannot fly, let me sing.'

Stephen Sondheim

(So, come to choir practice, Thursday at 5:30.)



St Giles Events

Monday, October 09 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Wednesday, October 11 ~ 5:00 p.m.

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

Thursday, October 12 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice come sing with us.

Friday, October 13 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Job (32-33)

Wednesday, October 18 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Taizé Service sounds and prayers of healing. All are welcome.



A Meaningless Hour

St. Giles Presbyterian Church is hosting "A Meaningless Hour", a theatre presentation by Tom Sherwood on the Book of Ecclesiastes. It is an insightful and humorous view on life from the perspective of King Solomon. It will be an enriching evening for participants of all ages. Come and join us, on Friday, October 20, 2023, at 181 First Avenue. There will be snacks & refreshment from 6-7 pm. Theatre presentation starts at 7 pm. Freewill offering is appreciated, with proceeds going to support the Multifaith Housing Initiative.

Talk Film, Talk Faith

Something new - an opportunity to gather with other members of the downtown Presbyterian community (Knox, St. Giles, St. Andrew's) to view and discuss a film.

Our first evening will be a screening of **A Brighter Tomorrow** from veteran Italian director Nanni Moretti. Part of the Official Competition at Cannes 2023, this a warm comedy/drama about a director trying to wrap up a film on the crisis within the Italian Communist Party after the Soviet invasion of Hungary in 1956, while his own marriage is in crisis. (English subtitles).

Sunday October 15, 5:45 p.m. at the Bytowne Cinema (English subtitles).

Discussion will follow in the home of Andrew Johnston, a ten minute walk from the Bytowne. For further information, speak to Stan Currie or Andrew, and RSVP to Andrew at talkfilmtalkfaith@gmail.com

**Gracefield Christian Camp & Retreat Thanksgiving
Dinner**

October 8, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

This year, we're changing things up with a delightful potluck-style feast. The camp will provide the main dishes and we ask each group to contribute a dish or two to share, ensuring everyone enjoys a variety of delicious creations. If you are interested in joining us please sign up on the Website. <https://gracefieldcamp.ca/camp-events/2023thanksgiving>

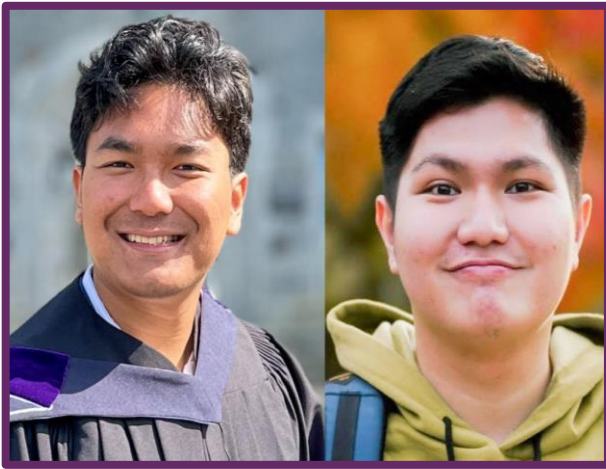
St. Giles Mission Committee needs members

Mission in all its forms is an integral part of who we are as a congregation. We are looking for new members to join this committee to help us promote mission.

If you are interested, please contact Stan Currie, 613-233-0538 or by email at scurrie@ncf.ca

Mission Moment

In the book of Acts, the disciples traveled far and wide to share the good news of Christ. The Rural and Remote Ministry Fund offers seminary students the opportunity to gain practical ministry experience in rural communities across the country. This summer, Nehemia Neuhisa and Howard Tuwaidan, both seminary students, served as student ministers for the Synod of Saskatchewan. Through the experience, Nehemia and Howard were able to lead worship at 10 different congregations, support Vacation Bible School programs, serve as chaplains at Camp Christopher, and volunteer at Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry. Like the early disciples, their commitment to mission and outreach was a blessing to many.



Presbyterians
Sharing



The Presbyterian Church in Canada