

# St Giles Presbyterian Church



*The Ten Young Women, from JESUS MAFA, a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian Community in Cameroon, Africa.*

**November 12, 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: *Récit* by Denis Bédard  
(Suite du premier ton)

\*Denis Bédard, composer of the prelude and postlude, is a Canadian composer of organ and choral music.

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Let us praise the God of Truth!

**All: Hallelujah! We seek God's truth.**

One: Let us praise the God of Peace!

**All: Hallelujah! We seek God's peace.**

One: Let us praise the God of Love!

**All: Hallelujah! In Christ we know God's love  
and so we offer our praise!**

**\*\*Hymn:** Give me oil in my lamp

**655**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Transforming God, you take the night and give us day. You take our strife and give us peace. You take our sadness and give us joy. You take our fear and

give us courage. You take death and give us new life. O God, you give and you give and you give. So we come to praise you and offer our love and loyalty, as your willing servants in the name of Christ, who enriches our lives with grace. And in the power of the Spirit who prays within us, when we cannot find the right words to honour you.

### Unison Prayer of Confession

**Trusting God, you placed your mission in our hands and gave us gifts to accomplish amazing things in Jesus' name. We confess sometimes we've taken credit for what your love has done. Sometimes we've called our own desires your will. Sometimes we've stepped back and gripe about not getting enough credit. Forgive us when we've failed to honour your trust in us.**

### 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

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. So trust God's promise. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and given a new start by God's generous grace.

## Scripture

First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Psalm 78:1–7 *(with refrain 1)*

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;

**incline your ears to the words of my mouth.**

I will open my mouth in a parable;

**I will utter dark sayings from of old,  
things that we have heard and known,  
that our ancestors have told us.**

We will not hide them from their children;

**we will tell to the coming generation  
the glorious deeds of the Lord  
and the mighty wonders that he has done.**

The Lord established a decree in Jacob

and appointed a law in Israel,

which he commanded our ancestors

to teach to their children,

**that the next generation might know them,  
the children yet unborn,  
and rise up and tell them to their children,  
so that they should set their hope in God,  
and not forget the works of God,  
but keep his commandments;**

Second Reading: Matthew 25:1–13

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their

lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn:** Teach me, God, to wonder

**704**

Sermon An Oil-Ready Lamp

Prayers of the People

**\*\*Hymn:** Be still my soul

**749**

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 of all hopefulness

**748**

(in the tune of 626)

Benediction

Postlude *Plein Jeu*

by Denis Bédard



## **George and Margaret Armstrong**

St. Giles has been notified that we will receive a bequest from the estate of the late Margaret Armstrong. Our members will have good memories of the participation of George and Margaret in the life of our congregation. We give thanks to God for their generosity.





## St Giles Events

**Monday, November 13 ~ 11:00 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour** by teleconference.

**Thursday, November 16 ~ 5:30 p.m.**

**Choir Practice**

**Friday, November 17 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

**Bible Study** is taking a one week break.



# Christmas Fayre

St Giles Presbyterian Church  
Bank and First Avenue

**Saturday November 18**  
**10 am to 2 pm**

Homemade Baking, Jams & Jellies  
Books, Deli, Treasures  
Coffee, Tea and Muffins

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## **Christmas Fayre Update**

As well as all kinds of food, we will have a table of "Treasures"—Not junk! Please donate small items that you no longer use, and are in good condition.

Finally, bring your friends and neighbours and enjoy the "Fayre".

November 18 – 10 am to 2 pm.

Thanks to all, Kaye Tate 613-521-5625

## **Camerons Christmas Concert:**

Friday, December 1 at 7:30 pm. The Pipes and Drums of the Cameron Highlanders are renewing their Annual Benefit Concert.

This concert is in support of the Centretown Emergence Food Centre. Admission is free. However, attendees are encouraged to make donations of non-perishable food or cash.

## **Thank You from Captain A.A. MarquardtH**

I appreciate your Church and the CH of O Association's efforts in sending us gifts, treats and those other comforts from home that we just can't get over here. It is doubly appreciated as it has been a tough, demanding tour with a constant tempo and a massive responsibility

to train Ukrainian soldiers to enable them to fight the Russian army.

Myself and the other two Camerons on tour are doing well, but very tired as we work long, demanding days. However, that's the nature of operations and something we accepted early in tour.

Wishing you a peaceful Remembrance Day.

## **Choir**

Why do we sing? Singing is a very healthy activity. As one organist/choir director said, 'Music takes us beyond the words.' It is spiritual. The fun and friendships that comes from this are God's gift.



Come out to rehearsal and give it a try. Thanks Heather Rice gowans978@gmail.com. Soli Deo Gloria

## Mission Moment

We are a vibrant denomination, working together to put our faith into action. When we give to Presbyterians Sharing, we share in God's mission and proclaim God's love. We participate in mission and ministry in Canada, build strong congregations, support theological colleges and provide resources and educational opportunities. We serve vulnerable people, seek justice and work toward healing and reconciliation with Indigenous people. We share Christ's love around the world, sending grants and staff to encourage, equip and accompany PCC partners in their ministry. Through Presbyterians Sharing, we make mission and ministry happen. None of this would be possible without your generous gifts.



**The Presbyterian Church in Canada**