

St Giles Presbyterian Church



*Parable of the Talents, engraving by Matthaus Merian the Elder
(1593-1650)*

November 19, 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: *Prelude*

by Jean Langlais

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: God of all times and places, we gather to worship you.

All: We turn our eyes to you and rejoice in your presence.

One: God of all life and love, we gather to sing your praise.

**All: We turn our eyes to you
and marvel at your power and your promise.**

One: God of all wisdom and wonder,
we gather to learn from your Son.

**All: We turn our eyes toward Christ
and wait for your Word to lead us.**

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

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of grace and purpose, you are the source of our lives and the source of all our possibilities. You call us to serve in your world and inspire us to choose a purpose for ourselves that will express your goodness and mercy. Jesus has shown us many ways to serve with courage and compassion. The Holy Spirit opens doors for us to act with love and loyalty. Draw near to us in this time of worship and show us where you need us to be so that our lives may bring you honour, Source, Saviour and Spirit of Life.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, you call us to love our neighbours and serve your purposes. We confess that this is easier said than done. When things get complicated, we lose patience and turn away. When we are unprepared for a challenge, we excuse ourselves from taking part. Forgive us, O God. Renew our willingness to put ourselves on the line for your love.

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

Believe the Good News! The mercy of our God is from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus Christ, God's generous love reaches out to embrace us. In him, we are forgiven and set free to begin again. Thanks be to God!

Scripture

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:14–18

The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Psalms 90:1–8 *(with refrain 2)*

Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn us back to dust
and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

**For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past
or like a watch in the night.**

You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
**in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.**

For we are consumed by your anger;
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.

You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

Second Reading: Matthew 25:14–30

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping

where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** How clear is our vocation, Lord **649**

Sermon Heartless Master, Worthless Slave

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Take time to be holy **638**

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 Jesus, you shall be my song

665

Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Tune*

by Antonio Vivaldi



St Giles Events

Monday, November 20 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Wednesday, November 22 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Session Meeting in person

Thursday, November 23 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice

Friday, November 24 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Job (42:7–17)





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

Multifaith Housing Initiative

Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI) exists to build affordable housing and aims to provide at-risk people with secure, safe homes.

MHI has adopted a unique approach. They are a coalition of faith groups who work with local businesses, civil society, The City of Ottawa and federal/provincial governments to build and house our future communities. This new way of working has created homes for more than 400 people. It has opened up new ways to gather the commitment, skills and resources that build homes and strengthen communities.

A roof over your head means better health, more stability. A chance to build a better future and greater community.

MHI is a not-for-profit charitable organization in Ottawa, Canada established in 2002

Mission Moment

The friendship between the Rev. Dr. Paul McLean and the Rev. Manias Chang Yu-fa began in 2012 when they first started working together on the Bunun Bible translation project, one of the Indigenous languages in Taiwan. In March 2023, they had just finished finalizing the entire translation when Manias was hospitalized. He passed away three months later. Although Manias did not live to see the complete Bunun Bible, his family and friends find comfort in knowing that he knew that his translation work of many years was completed before he passed away. We give thanks for faithful servants. Paul receives support from Presbyterians Sharing for his work in Bible Translation.



The Presbyterian Church in Canada