

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Byzantine mosaic of Christ Separating Sheep from Goats at S. Apollinare
Nuovo, Ravenna, Italy

November 26, 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: *With a Voice of Singing*

by Martin Shaw/arr. Alice Carpenter

Welcome

Call to Worship (from Revelation 7:10–12)

One: Salvation belongs to our God,

All: Who is seated on the throne,

One: And to the Lamb!

All: Amen!

One: Blessing and glory and wisdom,

**All: and thanksgiving and honor and power
and might,**

One: Be to our God forever and ever!

All: Amen.

****Hymn:** Rejoice, the Lord is King

267

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God most holy, you are known to us as the Almighty, Eternal Ruler and Lord. We call you our Shepherd and Guide. We praise you with many names, but you are

beyond our imagination, so much greater than our words. We know you in the stories of Jesus and in him, we see your love in action, reaching out to the world. You move in us and through us by your Spirit, drawing us to you, sending us to live out your word. God most holy, Three in One and One in Three, we praise you with our lips and with our lives to offer you honour and love, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God most merciful, we confess that we have failed to love fully or forgive wholly. You offer us freedom but we settle for the familiar. You offer us hope but we prefer knowing what will happen next. Teach us to give up cautious faithfulness, so that we can offer you our whole lives, and commit to following Jesus into the future you are creating.

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

Hear the Good News. God's compassion never fails. God's loving kindness is steadfast. Know that you are forgiven by the grace of Jesus Christ. Forgive each other, and live in peace and harmony.

Scripture

First Reading: Ezekiel 34: 17-24

As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats: Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, but you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture? When you drink of clear water, must you foul the rest with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet and drink what you have fouled with your feet?

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

Psalm 100 (*with refrain 2*) King James Version (in Unison)

**Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,
all ye lands.**

**Serve the Lord with gladness:
come before his presence with singing.**

Know ye that the Lord he is God:

**it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise:
be thankful unto him, and bless his name.**

**For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth to all generations.**

Second Reading: Matthew 25:31–46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I

was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Saviour, like a shepherd lead us **485**

Sermon One of the Least of These

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Christ's is the world **758**

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:** Crown him with many crowns **274**

Benediction

Postlude *Choral Song* by Samuel Wesley



St Giles Events

Monday, November 27 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.



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

Choir Practice

Friday, Dec 1 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study has finished the Book of Job. We will take a pause. Resumption to be determined. If you have a suggestion for the next book to study, please contact the Rev. Wu.

Friday, December 01 ~ 7:30 p.m.

The Cameron Highlanders Benefit Concert.

Wednesday, December 06 ~ 10:30 a.m.

St Giles Women's Association will meet by teleconference.

Wednesday, December 06 ~ 5:00 p.m.

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



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 Community 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.

Update: Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI)

The presentation A Meaningless Hour by Tom Sherwood presented at St Giles in October, raised over \$700.00 in support of MHI. It's not too late to donate to MHI, either directly to MHI or through St. Giles. Giving Tuesday is November 28th should you wish to donate to MHI and other missions or charities

MHI exists to build affordable housing and aims to provide at-risk people with secure, safe homes. A roof over your head means better health, more stability. MHI is a not-for-profit charitable organization in Ottawa, Canada established in 2002.

Together we can make a difference. If you would like to be involved in on going missions please connect with an elder or email the office at office@stgilesottawa.org.

Baptism / Confirmation / Reception of New Members

There is something special about being baptized into the Christian faith during the season of Advent and Christmas. If you wish to know more about the services of baptism and confirmation or how to become a member of St. Giles, please contact Rev. Paul Wu. At 613-276-2551, or paulwu55@yahoo.ca

Mission Moment

Over the past two years, Canadian aid organizations advocated to remove legal barriers to much-needed aid in Afghanistan. The barriers prevented aid organizations, including PWS&D, from providing urgent humanitarian assistance since the Taliban took control in August 2021. The recent parliamentary adoption of Bill C-41 now enables Canadian aid organizations to provide crucial aid in Afghanistan safely and effectively. Bill C-41 is vital to improving access to health care, ensuring access to food, water and sanitation, education, and protecting human dignity. As winter approaches, the needs are even greater. PWS&D will now support work in Afghanistan once again—an important step in coping with political, economic and climate adversity for many in the country.



The Presbyterian Church in Canada