

# St Giles Presbyterian Church



**Transfiguracion del Divino Salvador del Mundo**, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

**February 11, 2024**

# **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 available. Please speak with an usher, if you have any questions. 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: *The Light of Faith* by Roy E. Nolte

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Lord Jesus, on this day when you revealed your glory to your disciples;

**All: Reveal your glory to us.**

One: As we gaze on the splendour of your love;

**All: Help us to love you and our neighbours around us.**

One: Emmanuel, Everlasting God, Prince of Peace

**All: We worship you today,  
with all our hearts and our minds.**

**\*\*Hymn:** Jesus bids us shine

**773**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Creator God, the one who at the beginning said "let there be light" and there was light: shine the light of your grace, love and mercy on us, as we gather for worship today. Show us who you are and how we can become more like you. Holy God, in your son Jesus

Christ, we receive redemption from our sins and the promise of eternal life. He is the perfect example of how we should love and care for each other, regardless of our backgrounds, race, or ethnicity. On this Transfiguration Sunday, help us to see you in all your glory, the Word made flesh. May this glory, through the Holy Spirit, transform our lives. In a world filled with violence and injustice, inspire us to build the tabernacles of peace and love, until the earth is full of your glory, as the waters cover the seas.

#### Unison Prayer of Confession

**Forgiving God, you call us to love each other regardless of our race, colour or creed, but we confess that we find it easier to shun those who do not look like us, or share our religion, our values. You call the church to be one, neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free, neither male nor female. But we admit that your church is marked by elements of hatred and divisions. Forgive us Lord, remove things that cause us to despise and distrust each other. Help us to follow the example our Lord revealed to us today. Make us instruments of your love and peace in our world today.**

## 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: Christ died for our sins and rose again that God may free us from the tyranny of judging others to live fully in the power of God's grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, God forgives your sins and offers you a transformed future. Live fully into God's grace. Amen.

## Scripture

First Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:1–6

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful, underhanded ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded

the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing clearly the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus's sake. For it is the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Psalm 50:1–6 (*with refrain 1*)

The mighty one, God the Lord,  
speaks and summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,  
God shines forth.

**Our God comes and does not keep silent;  
before him is a devouring fire  
around whom is a raging storm.**

God calls to the heavens above  
and to the earth, that the people may be judged:  
"Gather to me my faithful ones,  
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

**The heavens declare God's righteousness,  
for God alone is judge.**

Second Reading: Mark 9:2–9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by

themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one on earth could brighten them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

(Henry Purcell, arr. A.V. Fedak)

Sermon In the Face of Christ

Prayers of the People

**\*\*Hymn:** Lord, the light of your love is shining

**376**

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:** We've a story to tell to the nations

**765**

Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Air*

by Bert van der Hoek





## **St Giles Events**

**Monday, February 12 ~ 11:00 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour** by teleconference.

**Tuesday Feb 13 ~ 5:30 p.m.**

**Pancake Tuesday** in the banquet hall.

**Wednesday Feb 14 ~ 7:00 p.m.**

**Ash Wednesday** service in the sanctuary

**Thursday, February 15 ~ 5:30 p.m.**

**Choir Practice** all are invited to attend.

**Friday, February 16 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

**Bible Study** Romans 3:9–31, theme "God righteously forgive all through faith," by teleconference.

### **Joining the Meeting, Conference Call or Bible Study**

1. Three to five minutes before the start time, call toll-free 1-888-884-4539.
2. You will be asked to enter a passcode number which is 7455703#.
3. Make sure to press the # after the number.
4. You will then be asked to say your name. Say it.
5. Press the # again.

## **Pancakes and Ash**

St. Giles is again partnering with Bytown Community Church to put together 'Pancake Tuesday' dinner (Feb 13, 5:30pm) and Ash Wednesday service (Feb 14, 7pm). We hope these event will foster closer cooperation between the two congregations, engage the wider community, and mark the beginning of the season of Lent. Please come and invite your friends.

## **Glory be to God**

The text of the hymn, 'Come Sing O Church In Joy' was written by Brian Dill in 1988. It was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988-1989 observance, which had the theme 'Celebrate the Journey'.



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.

**Give it a try.** You can speak to me, Heather Rice at coffee hour or use my email: [gowans978@gmail.com](mailto:gowans978@gmail.com). Soli Deo Gloria

## **Friday Bible Study**

The Book of Romans was written by the Apostle Paul, around 55-57 A.D. It is sometimes considered by biblical scholars as a systematic theology outlined by Paul, especially on justification and salvation. Others have called it the Good News according to Paul. This book offers a breathtaking theological and spiritual vision that is relevant to the ancient

and contemporary readers alike. Come and join us! For more information, please contact Rev. Paul Wu.

## **Centretown Community Food Centre**

The number of people visiting the Centretown Community Food Centre increased 54% in 2023 compared to 2022. We are now providing food for over 1,200 people every month! In order to meet this increased demand, the Food Centre will be open one more day each week starting in March.

To make this happen we need some additional volunteers for Client Service on Thursdays from 12pm to 3pm and for Shelf Stocking and Food Portioning on Fridays from 8am to 10am.

Please contact Diana Mahaffy, [manager@ccfcottawa.ca](mailto:manager@ccfcottawa.ca), if you would like to volunteer at the Food Centre and help us meet this need in our community.

## **Gracefield Christian Camp**

The Registration for Gracefield summer camp has begun. There are two separate weeks for Trailblazer (Age 7-12), July 7-12 and July 21-26. For those age 13-15, the Woodlander or the Frontier camp are available on the week of July 28 to August 2. There are two new camp being introduced this year: STEM (science, technology, engineering, math), and MADD (music, art, drama, dance) for those age 10-15, on the week of July 14-19. There is an early bird discount of 10% (before March 31). For more information, contact Rev. Paul Wu, or check out [www.gracefieldcamp.ca](http://www.gracefieldcamp.ca)

## Mission Moment

In response to an invitation from Palestinian Christians, the PCC (through Presbyterians Sharing) sent Robyn Ahn (St. Andrew's, Barrie) and Urwah Rasool (Unionville PC, ON) to Palestine/Israel through the Journey for Justice program hosted by the PCC's partner, Joint Advocacy Initiative of the East Jerusalem YMCA/YWCA. With 23 other young people, they experienced the daily life of Palestinian youth, listening to their stories and seeing first-hand how occupying measures impacted them. It was an unforgettable, eye-opening experience for Robyn and Urwah.



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