

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Entry into Jerusalem, by Lorenzetti, Pietro, active 1320-1348, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*.

March 24, 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: *Invocation*

by Rachel Laurin

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Jesus is coming.

All: Hosanna!

One: He comes to us riding on a donkey.

All: Hosanna!

One: Open wide the gates!

All: Hosanna!

One: Let us welcome him with branches and songs of praise.

All: Jesus is coming. Hosanna to the King of kings!

****Hymn:** Hosanna, loud hosanna

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Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of grace and truth, we gather in humility and hope because we believe you have the power to change the world, to change it for the better with your love. We gather because we believe no one is beyond your concern, no one is beyond your

embrace. Such love astonishes us. Without your grace, we cannot even imagine such love. In this hour of worship, inspire us with a vision of love which will change the world and our lives for goodness' sake.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, you call us to be servants yet we confess we like to be served. You call us to give ourselves away for love's sake, yet we confess we like to hang on to what we have. We can't imagine following you to the cross. As we see your cross looming, we wonder, is this what you have in mind for 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, for ever. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus said: I do not call you servants any longer, but I have called you friends. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Christ has laid down his life for us and invites us to love one another as he has loved us. Trust his love to give you strength and make you new.

Scripture

First Reading: John 12:12–16

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!”

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: “Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!”

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

Psalms 118:1–2, 19–29 (*with refrain 2*)

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
God’s steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

“God’s steadfast love endures forever.”

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the Lord's doing;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God,

and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,

up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God, I will extol you.

All:

**O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Second Reading: Mark 15:6–15

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to

ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: My Song is Love Unknown

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(J. Ireland, arr. James Kirkby)

Sermon The Chief Cornerstone

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** O dearest Lord

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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:** Ride on, ride on in majesty

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Benediction

Postlude *Gabriel's Oboe* by Ennio Morricone
arr. Mark McGurty, adapted by Wilma Jensen

St Giles Events

Monday, March 25 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.



Thursday, March 28 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice all are invited to attend.

Friday, March 29 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study will be delayed for one week.

Friday, March 29 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Good Friday joint service with Bytown Community Church. All are welcome.

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#.

Come Try Alpha

St. Giles is starting, for the first time, the Alpha Course, where people can encounter Jesus for themselves. It is a 11-week course, centring around shared meals, videos and lively discussion. It is tentatively set to begin on April 10 (Wednesday), at 6:30 pm. Please contact the Rev. Paul Wu (613-276-2551) for more details. Come and bring a friend.

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

Easter Blood Drive

Please consider donating Blood this Easter. Last Easter, a new city-wide interdenominational Christian effort, the [Easter Blood Drive](#), began to mobilize Christians in Ottawa to donate blood or plasma. This was an effort to help the blood supply recover from declining donations due to the pandemic. The need to donate remains ongoing: **while 1 in 2**

Canadians are eligible to donate, only 1 in 81 does.

Christians are a giving and grateful people – and donating is another impactful way to live out these qualities. In 2023, the Drive achieved 200 donations.

Our 2024 goal is to double the team's donors to 300 and double donations to 400. If you are already a registered donor, all you need to do is click on "partners" from the menu when logged into your profile at www.blood.ca or while using the app and select "Easter Blood Drive".

All donations during 2024 will be counted towards the goal. Visit Easterblooddrive.ca to learn more. **Canadian Blood Services has also reserved spots for Easter Blood Drive donors on March 23 and March 30 as a special team event and to provide the opportunity for fellowship and some fun.**

If you have any questions or need assistance to register, Owen Mahaffy of St. Stephen's Presbyterian is representing the Ottawa Presbytery and can be reached at owenmahaffy@gmail.com. You can also contact the Easter Blood Drive directly at info@blooddrive.ca for answers or to let them stay in touch with you.

Mission Moment

Following Christ's example to care for the broken-hearted and those crushed in spirit, Anamiewigummig Kenora Fellowship Centre provides care and support for people who have endured intergenerational trauma and profound loss and grief in their lives. The centre promotes healthy grieving practices that include sharing circles and memorial fires, creating a safe space for a time of prayer, sharing sorrow and mourning the loss of loved ones. The community has come to value the importance of the sacred fire teachings and the warmth and comfort it offers, welcoming all to come just as they are.



Presbyterians
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The Presbyterian Church in Canada