

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Touch Me and See

April 14, 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

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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: *Awakening Spring* by O. Scheldrup Oberg

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We gather with joy, for Easter brings us new life.

All: The Risen Christ is with us wherever we go.

One: Love breaks all bonds and unites us in hope.

All: Christ has defeated death. Let us rejoice and be glad!

One: Come and worship with hearts full of praise.

All: O God, receive our grateful Hallelujahs!

****Hymn:** Come, let us sing

706

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God our Maker, we praise you for all the wonders in your creation: For the detailed perfection revealed in a baby's tiny fingers, in cherry blossoms unzipping their jackets to greet the spring, in each rock face

worn by wind and water, witnessing to your ancient design like wrinkles around an aging smile. Such details lift our hearts to praise you. So let the life, teaching and resurrection of the Risen Christ lift and instruct our hearts this day, that we may greet a new week as an occasion to discover him in our midst, making all things new in the springtime of your Holy Spirit.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God our Redeemer, in raising Jesus from the dead, you showed us your power to defeat all that brings fear and sorrow to our lives. Yet we confess we are sometimes uncertain if we can trust the promise of resurrection for ourselves. Forgive us when we struggle to trust your goodness for us. Forgive us when we miss the signs of your love in our midst.

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

Scripture teaches that there is a time for every matter under heaven. A time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance. In confessing our sins to God, we have offered God our tears of regret. Now is the time to rejoice in God's mercy: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. In Jesus Christ, we have time to make a new start. Thanks be to God.

Scripture

First Reading: 1 John 3:1–7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Psalm 4 (*with refrain 1*)

Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

**But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful
for God's own;
the Lord hears when I call.**

When you are angry, do not sin;

ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

**Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.**

There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!"

**You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and wine abound.**

**I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in
safety.**

Second Reading: Luke 24:36–48

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why

are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** How deep the silence of the soul **750**

Sermon Touch Me and See

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** I'll love the Lord **573**

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 *Fanfare for a Festival* by Robert J. Hughes



St Giles Events

Monday, April 15 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.



Wednesday, April 17 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Alpha Course, second session, theme "Who is Jesus?" in person.

Thursday, April 18 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice all are invited to attend.

Friday, April 19 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study Romans 10, theme "Salvation for All," 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#.

Anniversary

St. Giles is celebrating its **99th Anniversary** on the **Sunday of May 5, 2024**. Rev. Andrew Johnston has graciously accepted our invitation to be the guest preacher. He has recently retired from an active and fruitful ministry, as the former minister of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Kingston, and earlier at St. Andrew's Ottawa. He will be sharing with us the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Thanks to the work of the Archival Committee, some historical records and pictures of the congregational life will be displayed as well. Please come and join our celebration.

Alpha Course Update

St. Giles has started the Alpha Course, where people can encounter Jesus for themselves. It is an 11-week course, centring around shared meals, videos and lively discussion. The first session was a great success. Thanks to all involved

Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D)

Join us at **St. Paul's Ottawa** on **Thursday, April 18th at 3 pm** to hear from Mphatso Nguluwe-Chikhwaza, director of the Synod of Livingstonia Health Department in Malawi. Learn about the health challenges facing **Malawi** and how **PWS&D programs** are making a difference.

Why Does My Voice Wobble?

On Sunday, April 14 at 3:00 p.m. Dr Mark Wilkinson will be presenting a talk on choral singing and the aging voice at Glebe-St James United Church, 650 Lyon St S. Bring your curiosity and take note of how to keep your voice healthy for a lifetime!



Healing and Wellness



Healing Circle

Mission Moment

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, Two Rivers Church (TRC) in Guelph, Ontario, is exploring creative new ways of being the church. Two values that support their purpose of “inviting all to come alive in Christ” are “face-to-face church” and “every voice matters.” These commitments have literally shaped the way the congregation worships God. TRC’s Living Room and Liturgical practices invite people into circles and semi-circles to be seen and heard. Opportunity for conversation, asking and answering questions, offering testimony, and sharing in discernment of the Spirit’s voice creates space for the whole body of Christ at TRC to participate in worship and mission.



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