

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Reid, Robert, 1862-1929. Wisdom Mural, at the Library of Congress, Washington DC, from Art in the Christian Tradition

September 22, 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: *What A Friend* by David H. Hegarty

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: From sunrise to sunset,

All: Let us praise God's holy name.

One: With the wisdom of the aged and the energy of the young,

All: Let us praise God's holy name.

One: In our work, in our homes, and in all we do,

All: Let us praise God's holy name.

One: Let us praise the Lord with all our hearts!

All: We will worship God now and always.

****Hymn:** Now that the daylight fills the sky **816**
(to the tune of Warrington, #275)

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of all creation, you have opened the world around us and filled it with beauty and purpose. Each creature declares your praise – the mountain

proclaims your majesty; the ripened field, your generosity. Birds flying aloft sing of your freedom; the tiny ant works with your persistence. We pray that all our work will honour your justice and mercy. May all our relationships speak of your compassion. So may we praise you, O God, not just in this hour of worship but in all the hours you grant us, as we follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Friend.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of all creation, you opened the world around us and filled it with wonder, yet we confess we look away from its harsher realities. Our ears can be deaf to cries of need. Our minds ignore opinions which differ from our own. Forgive us when we seek greatness instead of goodness and miss the wisdom you intend us to embrace.

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

The prophet Micah reminds us that God requires of us three things: to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. To all who truly repent and seek reconciliation with God and neighbour in kindness and humility, God offers forgiveness and peace. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Scripture

First Reading: Proverbs 1:20–23

Wisdom cries out in the street;
in the squares she raises her voice.

At the busiest corner she cries out;
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:
“How long, O simple ones, will you love being
simple?

How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing
and fools hate knowledge?

Give heed to my reproof;
will pour out my thoughts to you;
I will make my words known to you.

Psalm 1 (*with refrain 1*)

Happy are those

who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread
or sit in the seat of scoffers,

**but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.**

They are like trees

planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so

but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
Therefore, the wicked will not stand in the judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,
**for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Second Reading: James 3:13–4:3, 7–8

Who is wise and knowledgeable among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant and lie about the truth. This is not wisdom that comes down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and

wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it, so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it, so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Thou whose almighty word **291**

Sermon The Wisdom to Choose God

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** I sing the almighty power of God **333**

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:** To God be the glory **350**

Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Tune*

by Antonio Vivaldi
(arr. S.D. Wolff)

St Giles Events

Monday, September 23 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Thursday, September 26 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir practices Come and join in the song!

Friday, October 04 ~ 2:00 p.m.

Memorial Service for Roger White.



Sunday, October 06 ~ 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Walk for the Centre 2 or 4 km walk to raise funds for the Centretown Community Food Centre.

Friday, October 11 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study will resume October 11.



Church News

Memorial Service

St. Giles is organizing a memorial service for Roger White, on October 4 (Friday), at 2:00 pm. There will be a reception after the service at the banquet hall. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted (Matthew 5:4)

URGENT NEWS Walkathon changes.

There will be a pro Palestinian Demonstration at the time of our Walk. The City Hall will be locked down.

We will meet at Ascension Church 253 Echo Drive for music, guest speakers and the Sons of Scotland piper band. We will Walk the Rideau Canal pathway going north to Laurier St and back.

We are thankful to be able to continue our Walk for the Centre plans. Thank you for your support. Please donate online in support of St. Giles

Walkers. To donate by cheque to CCSAC or cash, please speak to Jean or Stan Currie at 613-233-0538. More information and pictures are available at the Walkathon information page at <https://www.centretownchurches.org/walkathon>

Presbyterian College

On-line Climate Change, Theology, and Church Study

This study is a great opportunity for individuals to reflect on vital issues and for local church leaders to start the climate change conversation by forming a small group of members that would participate in the study together. To register, please go here:

<https://www.presbyteriancollege.ca/2024/08/28/climate-change-theology-and-church/>.

If you have any questions, please contact Adrian at alangdon@pcmtl.ca

Prevent Elder Abuse ~ What is Your Role?

Learn the signs, eliminate the risks at free info session at Trinity Presbyterian Church, (1817 Richardson Side Road) on Monday, September 30, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Author and industry expert on elder abuse, Sabby Duthie, will share her knowledge on physical and mental abuse and an Ottawa Police Community Officer will provide key information on fraud scams and adult safety.

Peter Bryce Indigenous Scholarship in Medicine

The Presbytery of Ottawa has endorsed the Dr. Peter Bryce Indigenous Scholarship in Medicine, first established by Knox Presbyterian Church (Ottawa). To date, one scholarship has already been awarded, and just over half of the planned endowed amount of \$60,000 has been raised. To find out more about this scholarship, check out this link:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/fundraising/72eb5294-deb9-4798-b276-f99d56065ef5>

Synod 2024

The Synod of Quebec & Eastern Ontario is scheduled to meet on October 18 and 19, at St. Andrew's Church, Arnprior. The featured speaker is Carey Nieuwhof (careynieuwhof.com), a former Presbyterian minister, best-selling author, speaker, podcaster, church planter and the founder of The Art of Leadership Academy. Carey's mission is to help church leaders identify and scale their next growth barrier. If you are interested to attend, please contact the Rev. Paul Wu for more details.

Community News

Centretown Community Food Centre Job Posting

Manager needed for the 4-day/week operation of the Food Centre. The Manager will report to CCSAC through a Management Committee (MC). The primary responsibilities of the manager include program management, fundraising and community engagement. See posting at side entrance of St Giles and in the basement.

Ottawa School of Theology and Spirituality (OSTS)

A multi-denominational Christian-based organization. Their lecturers are drawn from Ottawa's universities, clergy of various backgrounds, and other knowledgeable educators. Courses can be on Zoom or in person. Course details and further information can be found on the school's homepage at <https://www.osts.ca/>. The OSTS has been part of the Ottawa church and religious community since 1964.

Mission Moment

PWS&D's annual Journey for Hope encourages supporters to gear up and walk, run, ride, roll or do another activity they love to raise money for the food security work PWS&D does around the world. Food security is an essential human right, yet a significant portion of the global population is food insecure, without access to enough food of acceptable quantity and quality. Your participation in and support for Journey for Hope enables PWS&D to actively respond to hunger needs through food security projects that improve agricultural production in places like Haiti, Guatemala and Malawi. Funds also help provide emergency food assistance in countries that are extremely vulnerable, including Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria, Somalia, South Sudan and Ethiopia. Thank you for participating and making a difference!



Presbyterian
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