

St Giles Presbyterian Church



"I am the Alpha and the Omega," provided symbolism for the early church as appears on this 3rd-4th century sarcophagus now in the Louvre in Paris. The monogram of Christ stands at the center, with the alpha to the left and the omega to the right. Surrounding it are the vines and branches, furthering the message of life in Christ.

November 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: *Simple Gifts* by Gilbert Martin

Welcome

Introit: Christ is made the sure foundation
By Rachel Aarons

Call to Worship

One: Say among the nations, that God reigns.

All: Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!

One: The Lord is coming to judge the earth.

All: God will judge the world with righteousness and truth.

One: So let us worship God with praise and honour.

All: We will offer the Lord our gratitude for all that God has done.

****Hymn:** Rejoice, the Lord is King **267**

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God whose power is love, in Jesus Christ, you tipped the world upside down. You revealed your strength through compassion, and your power through his

surrender to the Cross. In Christ, we trust that nothing can prevent your glory from shining forth. So, we offer you our love and loyalty this day and proclaim that Christ is King. With your Spirit, turn the world upside down again, so that mercy prevails over those who would rule by force, and truth triumphs over the world's deceptions. All honour and blessing be yours, Holy One, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, world without end.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for the coming of your kingdom week by week, but we confess we're not really clear on what that means. Will you come to set things straight in the world? Will you bring all things to an end or offer us a new beginning? Jesus, forgive us when we mix up our own desires with your purposes for your people. Teach us how to live out your truth.

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

Remember the promise the Apostle Paul declares: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the God who loves us. Let us rejoice that, no matter what is happening around us, no matter what we have done, God's deep love will never let us go.

Scripture

First Reading: Revelation 1:4–8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him,
and all the tribes of the earth will wail
on account of him.

So, it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Psalm 93 *(with refrain 2)*

The Lord is king and is robed in majesty;

the Lord is robed and is girded with strength;

The Lord has established the world; it shall never be moved;

your throne is established from of old;

you are from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O Lord,

the floods have lifted up their voice;

the floods lift up their roaring.

More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,

more majestic than the waves of the sea,

majestic on high is the Lord!

Your decrees are very sure;

holiness befits your house,

O Lord, forevermore.

Second Reading: John 18:33–37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Your kingdom come, O God

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Sermon The Alpha and The Omega

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Christ, Be Our Light

- 1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.**

Refrain

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

- 2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your Living voice. Refrain**
- 3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. Refrain**
- 4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. Refrain**
- 5. Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong."
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. Refrain**

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 *Maestoso (Sonata3)* by Felix Mendelssohn



St Giles Events

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

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

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

Choir Practice

Friday, November 29 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Proverbs 12, 13
Theme: The Proverbs of Solomon II

Saturday, November 30 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Fayre 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 the passcode number 7455703#.

Christmas Fayre

St Giles' Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday, November 30. Please reserve that date and help in any way you can. We need volunteers.

Thanks to all, Kaye Tate 613-521-5625

Christmas Concert, Friday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m.

The Pipes and Drums of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa will be presenting their annual concert at St. Giles on Friday December 6. This is a benefit event in support of the Centretown Community Food Centre. More details will follow.

Christmas Fair and Bazaar for Other Local Churches.

Southminster United Church Christmas Fair, Saturday, November 30, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 15 Aylmer Avenue. (poster on bulletin at side entrance). Note same date as the St Giles Fayre.

Concerts for Other Local Churches

Knox Presbyterian Church, Sunday December 1st 2:00p.m. will present, Gifts of Advent, a celebration with word, choir, organ and carols. (poster on bulletin at side entrance).

St Stephen's Anglican, Sunday December 1st 7:00p.m. in support of Campus Ministry at Algonquin College will host, The Four Choirs Christmas Concert. (poster on bulletin at side entrance).

Face to Face - Presbytery of Ottawa Youth Event

Join us at St. Paul's Church, Ottawa on Friday, November 29th from 7 to 9 p.m. for a Presbytery Youth Event. Youth grades 6-12 (with a leader) are invited to an in-person presbytery-wide youth event at St. Paul's Church at 971 Woodroffe Ave. The event will consist of icebreakers, worship, group activities, and a guided conversation and prayer. This event is a chance for the youth to get to know one another better and build a community within the presbytery. If you have questions, please contact our Presbytery Animator, Sunjay Henry at prezminanimator@gmail.com or 613-407-8075.

Mission Moment

27-year-old Urania was just 17 when she became pregnant and was forced to drop out of high school in Nicaragua, thwarting her hopes and dreams. Earning a living as a single mother with two girls was becoming increasingly difficult until she received help from PWS&D's local partner, which works to empower young women and girls. She started a café business, providing her with not only an income, but also a flexible schedule to spend time with her daughters and resume her high school studies.



(Photo from PCC via Flickr)



Presbyterian
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The Presbyterian Church in Canada