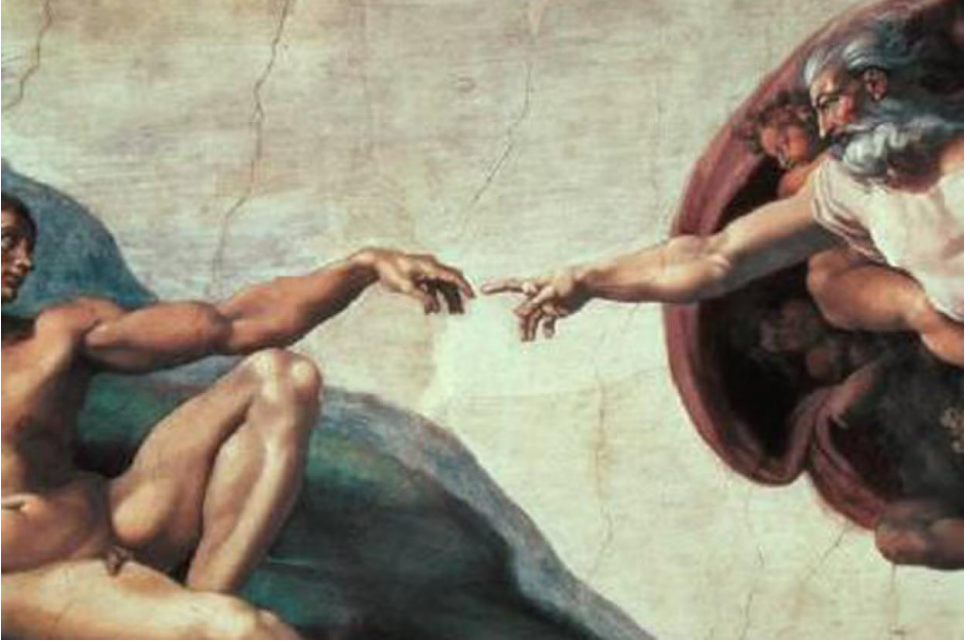


St Giles Presbyterian Church



***The Creation of Adam**, 1508-1512, fresco painted by Michelangelo, at the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, Vatican, Rome.*

January 5, 2025

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: *Voluntary No. 4*

by Paul F. Page

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

All: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

One: People living in darkness have seen a great light;

**All: On those living in the land
of the shadow of death a light has dawned**

One: The light of Christ has come upon the world.

**All: Now we see in part, then we shall
see face to face.**

****Hymn:** Joyful, joyful we adore you

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Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of power and might, God of grace and mercy, heaven and earth are full of your glory. You chose to become one of us in Jesus Christ, sharing our joys and sorrows, displaying your greatness in the child of the manger. We praise you for your amazing love, great enough to embrace the expanding universe, yet close enough to enter our humble hearts. During this time worship, surprise us with your grace once again, that we, with the whole Church and your precious creation, may praise and honour your holy name.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of goodness and guidance, in Christ you sent us light to live by, yet we seek shadows in which to hide. In him, you promise new life, but we prefer with old habits, nursing grievances and clinging to familiar opinions. You are generous with your love, but we reject neighbours and fear strangers who differ from us. Remake us in the image of your Son with your mercy, and teach us how to follow him in the year ahead.

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

Here is the good news of the Gospel! Jesus Christ is God's elect, chosen for our salvation. In him we find God's acceptance. Let us give thanks to God for this gift and be at peace with ourselves and with one another. Amen.

Scripture

First Reading: Numbers 6:22–27

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying: Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them:

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.

"So, they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."

Psalm 8 (with refrain 1)

O Lord, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Your splendour is chanted above the heavens
by the mouths of babes and infants

**you have set up a defence against your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.**

When I look at your heavens,
the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars that you have established;

**what are human beings
that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?**

Yet you have made them a little lower
than the angels,

and crowned them with glory and honour.

You have given them dominion
over the works of your hands;

**you have put all things under their feet,
all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

O Lord, our God,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4–7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** We are God's people

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Sermon What Are Humans?

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Help us accept each other

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Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

Doxology:

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**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:** God who gives to life its goodness

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Benediction

Postlude *Rondeau*

by Jean J. Mouret



St Giles Events

Monday, January 06 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Wednesday, January 08 ~ 12:30 a.m.

St Giles Women will meet in person (bag lunch). See announcement for further details.

Thursday, January 9 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice is resuming, to God be the glory.

Friday, January 10 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Proverbs 16,
17 The Proverbs of Solomon IV

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#.



St Giles Women

The St. Giles Women will meet in person on January 8th at 12:30. (bag lunch). If the weather is a problem, we will switch to teleconference at 10 am.

All are welcome.

Ottawa School of Theology and Spirituality (OSTS)

They are a multi-denominational Christian-based organization. Their lecturers are drawn from Ottawa's universities, clergy of various backgrounds, and other knowledgeable educators and individuals who give courses on theology, spirituality, philosophy, Bible studies, ethics, social justice issues, the arts and religion. 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 poster for the winter term is on the bulletin board by the side entrance to the church.

The OSTS has been part of the Ottawa church and religious community since 1964.

Mission Moment

In Nepal, 60-year old Sakkal Bahadur Shahi lacked the means to transform his farm into a sustainable, income-generating operation. Sakkal's situation improved when he joined a PWS&D-supported project – a self-help group working to improve the living standards of poor members in their community. With training, Sakkal was able to transform his farm into a model farm, adopting climate-resilient farming practices to grow various vegetables. He is now better able to support his family through his farm.



Presbyterian
World Service
& Development



The Presbyterian Church in Canada