

St Giles Presbyterian Church



En croix, is a ballet term meaning "in the shape of a cross".

February 23, 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: *We Shall Overcome* arr. Robert T. Gibson

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Sing to the Lord a new song!

All: Let us make melody before our God!

One: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

All: Let us praise God's holy name together.

One: How good it is to sing praises to our God;

All: For God is gracious and steadfast in mercy.

One: A song of praise is always fitting,

**All: For God heals the broken hearted
and binds up our wounds.**

****Hymn:** New every morning is the love

815

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of majesty and mystery, we come in wonder and humility, for you are beyond our imagining, astonishing us with the detail and designs within your creation. Word of hope and healing, you touch our lives with truth and tenderness, revealing our need

and our gift. Spirit of purpose and possibility, you move within us when we least expect it, awakening our gifts, urging us to respond. Receive our praise and prayer this day and prepare us to receive your Word in its wisdom and warning, for we come to you through Christ our Lord, trusting in his grace and truth.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Abba Father in Heaven, at this season of the year our hearts are grateful for all the love that touches our lives. Still, we confess that we are not always shining examples of the love we long for. Forgive us for those times when we failed to keep our word and disappointed those who love us. Forgive us when we gave into our tempers and temptations. Renew and remake us through the grace of your Son, Jesus, your love made flesh.

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 and ever. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Gospel writer John proclaims that God is love, and that God's perfect love casts out fear. We are promised that those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. So claim your hope in this Good News: God's perfect love abides in you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Scripture

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5–10

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?
I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Psalm 1 (*with refrain 2*)

Blessed 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 that 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 flourish.

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 knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Second Reading: Luke 6:17–26

He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Open my eyes, that I may see **500**

Sermon Cross Shaped Life

****Hymn:** With the Lord as my guide **574**

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:** Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine **687**

Benediction

Postlude *Processional*

by George F. Handel
(from the Water Music)



St Giles Events

Monday, February 24 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Thursday, February 27 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, to God be the glory.

Friday, February 28 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Proverbs 25,
26 The Proverbs of Solomon VII

Sunday, March 02 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion.

Tuesday, March 04 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Pancake Dinner in the Banquet Hall.

Wednesday, March 05 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service in the sanctuary.

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#.



Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting at St Giles is scheduled to take place on February 23, 2024, immediately after the worship service. A draft copy of the annual report will be made available one week prior.

Pancakes and Ash

St. Giles is again partnering with Bytown Community Church to put together "Pancake Tuesday" dinner (March 04 5:30 p.m.) and Ash Wednesday service (March 5, 7:00 p.m.). We hope these events will foster closer cooperation between the two congregations, engage the wider community, and mark the beginning of the season of Lent. Please come and invite your friends.

Presbytery Youth

Our next presbytery event will take place on Friday March 28th at 7pm. We will be meeting at St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church. The evening will consist of fellowship, worship, activities, discussion and snacks.

Our special project for the event will be writing encouragement notes to university students who will be writing their final exams. Hope to see you there!

Calling ALL youth! As part of the Presbytery's 150th anniversary celebration on Saturday May 4th, the planning committee has asked for youth to join the celebration and participate in the following areas: possibly reading Scripture, ushering, serving refreshments, receiving offerings. If any of these areas interest, please reach out to Sunjay Henry via email at prezminimator@gmail.com or on Instagram @prezzyyouthonfire

Thank you from Centretown Community Food Centre

It was a great pleasure to attend the Cameron Highlanders annual December Pipes and Drum concert which raised over \$1,875 in donations as well as two carloads of food donations. We are very grateful for St Giles' ongoing support of our food centre. Special thanks to Don Tate; Stan and Jean Currie for all their help. Your donations will be used in the purchase of essential food items during a time when there are fewer donations. Sincerely, Dennis Hansen, Manager Centretown Community Food Centre (ccfcottawa.ca).

Mission Moment

Bishar, a 13-month-old boy from Sudan, was diagnosed by a community healthcare worker from Trocaire with severe malnutrition and referred to the hospital. There, he received dedicated care and medical intervention and was soon allowed to return home. Bishar's recovery brought hope to his family. His mother expressed immense gratitude for the staff's dedication and the hospital's assistance in saving her son's life. PWS&D supports Trocaire through its ecumenical collaborations with Canadian Foodgrains Bank.



(Photo from PCC)



Presbyterian
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The Presbyterian Church in Canada