

St Giles Presbyterian Church



***Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland, CA, USA, 2009,
by Craig W. Hartman, from Art in the Christian Tradition.***

March 2, 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: *Sing Joyfully to God* by Michael Joseph

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Our God is mighty and merciful,
ruling with kindness over all the earth;

All: Let all people praise God's holy name.

One: The Lord loves justice and creates equity
for all God's people;

**All: We come into God's presence with thanksgiving,
singing songs of joyful praise;**

One: For the Christ of glory shines in this place;

**All: The Holy Spirit meets us here,
and so we come to worship.**

****Hymn:** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

321

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of grace and God of glory, you reveal your presence to the world in radiant glory and gentle whispers, on mountain tops and lowly plains, in classrooms and hospital beds, in homes and churches, in the silence of nature and the sounds of cities. Yours is the presence that pushes past our fears, yours is the touch that transforms our doubts. So, we come before you to celebrate your goodness, to focus on your light, and offer you all praise, honour and thanksgiving, for you are our God and we are your people, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful and forgiving God, we confess all that keeps us from sharing your goodness. We are distracted by the desire to have more than we need. We focus on our own disappointments rather than trust the future you create. We feel discouraged by the nightly news and fail to claim the hope you hold out to us in Christ. Transfigure us by your grace and shape us into disciples who follow Christ's leading each day.

Assurance of Pardon

Do not be afraid. God's forgiveness shines into the world. The morning star rises in our hearts and we are made new. Know that you are forgiven and forgive one another in Christ's name.

Scripture

First Reading: Exodus 34:29–35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave

them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

Psalm 99 (*with refrain 1*)

The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!

**The Lord sits enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth quake!**

The Lord is great in Zion;
exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awesome name.

Holy is the Lord!

Mighty Ruler, lover of justice,
you have established equity;
**you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.**

Extol the Lord our God;
worship at his footstool.

Holy is the Lord!

Moses and Aaron were among God's priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on God's name.
They cried to the Lord, who answered them.

The Lord spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
**they kept God's decrees,
and the statutes that God gave them.**

O Lord our God, you answered them;
**you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**

Extol the Lord our God,
and worship at the holy mountain;
for the Lord our God is holy.

Second Reading: Luke 9:28–36

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," not realizing what

he was saying. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and, in those days, told no one any of the things they had seen.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Lord, the light of your love is shining **376**

Sermon A Glimpse of the Kingdom

****Hymn:** Swiftly pass the clouds of glory **186**

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.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

...

we lift our hearts in joyful praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We praise you, most holy God,

...

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Gracious God,

...

almighty God, for ever and ever.

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.

****Hymn:** Let us break bread together **548**

Breaking the Bread / Blessing the Cup

Prayer After Communion

****Hymn:** O Jesus, I have promised **569**
(to the tune of Thornbury, #477)

Benediction

Postlude Rondeau

Jean Joseph Mouret



St Giles Events

Monday, March 03 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

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

Pancake Dinner in the Banquet Hall.

Wednesday, March 05 ~ 10:30 a.m.

The St. Giles Presbyterian Women will meet by teleconference.

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

Ash Wednesday Service in the sanctuary.

Thursday, March 06 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, to God be the glory.

Friday, March 07 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Proverbs 27, 28
The Proverbs of Solomon VIII

Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting at St Giles took place on February 23, 2024. A copy of the Annual Report can be picked up in the front reception area.

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.

Ottawa and Seaway-Glengarry Presbytery

Join your brothers and sisters across the Ottawa and Seaway-Glengarry Presbytery for an online Bible Study in 1 John that is being led by Sunjay Henry, the Presbytery Animator. The study takes place on Monday afternoons from 12pm-1pm. Please email Sunjay at prezminimator@gmail.com for the Zoom link or if you have any questions.

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

Mission Moment

Within the Northern New Brunswick Regional Ministry, there are many diverse communities, including three First Nations communities, rural and urban populations, and a growing number of newcomers to Canada. At the heart of each of the five congregations within the ministry is a genuine desire to be good neighbours and to improve the lives of those around them, even in small ways. Through their outreach efforts, the congregations bear witness to their faith and actively fulfill Christ's mission in the region.



(Photo from PCC)



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