

St Giles Presbyterian Church



***Incredulity of St. Thomas**, 1620, oil painting by Bernardo Strozzi,
from *Art in the Christian Tradition*.*

April 27, 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: *My Savior Lives*

Lani Smith

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: In life, in death, and in life beyond death,

All: The Risen Christ is Lord.

One: In success and discouragement,
in fear and in hope,

All: The Risen Christ is Lord.

One: Of the poor and broken, of the sinner and the
sinned against,

All: The Risen Christ is Lord.

One: In Church and community,
in our hearts and our homes,

**All: The Risen Christ is Lord, and so we gather
to worship in his name.**

****Hymn:** Now let the vault of heaven resound

255

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, we rejoice in this new day you have made; a day you have set apart and called us to gather in your name. We praise you for your Son, Jesus, and the power of new life promised in his resurrection. We praise you for your Spirit at work in human history, to restore and redeem our hope with that power of new life. God of steadfast love, we worship you with the Spirit and the Son, and claim your gift of new life, even in the face of any doubt or danger within the world you love. All praise, honour and glory be yours, O God, now and evermore.

Unison Prayer of Confession

O God of might and mercy, in raising Jesus from the dead, you showed us your power to defeat all that brings fear and sorrow to our lives. In his resurrection, Jesus promised to be with us everywhere and always. Yet we confess we are sometimes uncertain about your promises. We doubt the promise of resurrection for our own lives. Upheaval and anxiety eat away at our peace. Forgive us when we struggle to trust your goodness and your steadfast love for us.

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

Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free from sin and sorrow. In Jesus Christ, God offers us the gift of peace. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill your hearts this day. **Amen.**

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 150 (*with refrain 2*)

Praise the Lord!

**Praise God in the sanctuary;
praise God in the mighty firmament!**

Praise God for mighty deeds;
praise God according to surpassing greatness!

**Praise God with trumpet sound;
praise God with lute and harp!**

**Praise God with tambourine and dance;
praise God with strings and pipe!**

**Praise God with clanging cymbals;
praise God with loud clashing cymbals!**

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!

Second Reading: John 20:19–31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood

among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So, the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But

these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** God, when I stand **679**

Sermon A Bit of Thomas in Us All

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** I danced in the morning / Lord of the dance **250**

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:** Thine be the glory **258**

Benediction

Postlude *March Recessional*

Lily Strickland



St Giles Events

Monday, April 28 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour by teleconference.

Thursday, May 01 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, to God be the glory.



Friday, May 02 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study the Book of Revelation Chapter 2, Message to Seven Churches I.



Bible Study - Book of Revelation

As the opening verse indicates, this is a book about Jesus Christ, the mysteries of his return, of things that "must soon take place". Traditionally understood as written by John the Apostle, while exiled to the penal colony of Patmos, around 90-95 A.D. The book of Revelation has historically invited multitudes of interpretive readings with mixed results. It is not an understatement to say that history is littered with end-time miscalculations based on this book, and sometimes with devastating consequences. How then should we read this book? What does it say to the Church of the 21st century? Is the end drawing near? Come and join us in exploring this fascinating book, every Friday at noon, via Teleconference.

150th Anniversary of the Presbyterian Church in Canada

The Presbytery of Ottawa is organizing a special service of worship on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at 3 p.m., at St. Paul's Church, 971 Woodroffe Avenue, Ottawa, to celebrate and give thanks for 150 years of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. All members, adherents and friends of the presbyterian church are welcome to join this celebration. Choir members of St. Giles are also taking part in the joint choir for this event.

100th Anniversary of St. Giles Presbyterian Church

As part of on-going events planned by the Anniversary Committee, Rev. Amanda Currie, the Moderator of the 145th General Assembly of the PCC, has been invited as the guest speaker for the Sunday service of May 11, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. Having grown up at St. Giles, Amanda went on to pursue ordained ministry within the PCC. She is currently serving as the minister of First Presbyterian Church, Regina, and as the president of the Canadian Council of Churches. The worship service will be followed by a luncheon prepared by the Presbyterian Women's Association. All are welcome.

Anniversary Committee

Universal Portrait Studios has committed to produce an anniversary photobook for St Giles. This studio brings families together for professional portraits while delivering high-quality Pictorial Church Directories. An email invitation will be sent with further information. Start date for this event will be May 20th, 2025, and possibly May 21st, 2025.

Fundraiser Concert for Gracefield

Sunday June 1st, 2025, at St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, 579 Parkdale Avenue, Gracefield Christian Camp and Retreat Centre will be having a fundraiser Concert featuring St Stephens's choir with Pegi Jenkins as Music Director, and Deanna Singh, as Soprano. Online donations and free will offerings, will go to support Gracefield. (see poster at side entrance for further info)

Mission Moment

Supported by Presbyterians Sharing and generous donations, a dedicated team brings the hope of Jesus to people in 24 prisons in Malawi. Through weekly visits that include Bible study, prayer, and counselling, as well as monthly distribution of necessities such as bed mats, soap, toiletries, clothing, medicines and meal supplements for the most vulnerable, the Friends of Prisons ministry brings friendship and hope to prisoners.



(Photo from PCC)



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The Presbyterian Church in Canada