

St Giles Presbyterian Church



***The "Homeless Jesus"**, 2018, bronze sculpture by Timothy Schmalz, dedicated at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa.*

June 29, 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

Guest Vocalist: Aditi Magdalena

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: *Ave Maria*

Gabriel Fauré
(Luke 1:28, 42)

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: It is good to give thanks to God;

All: Let us sing praises to God's holy name!

One: We will declare God's steadfast love in the morning,

All: And God's faithfulness night after night.

One: Let us make a joyful noise in our worship!

All: For God is good and we know God's blessings.

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

815

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Faithful, fruitful God, you created our minds to grow in wisdom. You created our hearts to expand with love. You created our voices to sing your praises forever. So, we bring to you our worship with joyful praise, turning to Jesus for grace and guidance. Fill us

now with your Holy Spirit so that the fruit of the Spirit will bound in our lives. May we worship you in spirit and in truth, and serve you in the example of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Faithful, fruitful God, you call us to follow you, whatever the circumstance, yet we confess we prefer to remain where we are. You offer us new beginnings, yet we continue to make the same choices, guided by our own desires. We make excuses while avoiding your challenge for us to change. Forgive us, O God. Cleanse us with your mercy, and energize us to serve you and to serve your people.

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

In Christ, we are made a new creation; the old life is gone, and the new life has come! Know that God loves you and forgives you. Do not be afraid to make a new start!

Scripture

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1–2, 6–12

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So, the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept

watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Psalms 77:1–2, 11–20 (with refrain 2)

I cry aloud to God,
aloud, that God may hear me.

**In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord;
in the night my hand is stretched out
without wearying;
my soul refuses to be comforted**

I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord
I will remember your wonders of old.

**I will meditate on all your work
and muse on your mighty deeds.**

Your way, O God, is holy.

What god is so great as our God?

**You are the God who works wonders;
you have displayed your might among the peoples.
With your strong arm you redeemed your people,
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.**

When the waters saw you, O God,
when the waters saw you, they were afraid;
the very deep trembled.

**The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered;**

your arrows flashed on every side.

**The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world;**

the earth trembled and shook.

**Your way was through the sea,
your path, through the mighty waters;**
yet your footprints were unseen.

**You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.**

Second Reading: Luke 9:51–62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead,

but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Jesus Christ is Waiting

Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;

No one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.

Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too.

Make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,

Where injustice spirals and real hope retreats.

Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too.

In the Kingdom's causes let me rage with you

Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets

Curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.

Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too.

Let my care be active, healing just like you.

Jesus Christ is dancing, dancing in the streets,

Where each sign of hatred he, with love, defeats.

Listen, Lord Jesus, I should triumph too.

On suspicion's graveyard let me dance with you.

**Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
“Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.”
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few.
Walk one step before me, I will follow you.**

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Words John L Bell, GIA Publication In., Chicago Illinois

Sermon Jesus the Homeless

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Will you come and follow me **634**

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:** I have decided to follow Jesus **570**

Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Air* Bert van der Hoek

We thank Aditi Magdalena for being our vocalist this morning in Katie Gratton's absence.

St Giles Events

Thursday, July 03 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, to God be the glory.

Friday, July 04 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study will be taking a break over the summer and will resume after Labour Day.

Session News

The Session of St. Giles has accepted with thanks the resignation of Janice Fourney from active duty. Jan has faithfully served on the Session for many years. Her contribution to the congregational life of St. Giles is very much appreciated. May God bless her and remember her.

Monday Coffee Hour

The Session has decided to bring the Monday Coffee Hour via Teleconference to an end. It was started as a COVID ministry in 2020 when people were unable to gather after worship. It continued after the pandemic as a way to connect with those who are unable to physically attend worship. We thank God for all who participated in this ministry.

Helpers Wanted

St. Giles has been asked to send a total of 18 care packages to soldiers of the Cameron Highlander Regiment who are currently posted oversea. We are looking for additional volunteers who are able and willing to prepare baked goodies (for the end of August and October). For more information, please contact Kate Ferguson (tartanterriers@sympatico.ca).

Schedule of Joint Summer Services, 2025

July 06	Joint Services at St Giles Presbyterian	10:00 a.m.	181 First Ave.
July 13	Joint Services at Glebe St James United	10:00 a.m.	650 Lyon St.
July 20	Joint Services at Southminster United	10:00 a.m.	15 Aylmer Ave.
July 27	Joint Services at Southminster United	10:00 a.m.	15 Aylmer Ave.
Aug. 03	Joint Services at Southminster United	10:00 a.m.	15 Aylmer Ave
Aug. 10	Joint Services at Glebe St James United	10:00 a.m.	650 Lyon St.
Aug. 17	Worship at St Giles Presbyterian	10:00 a.m.	181 First Ave.
Aug. 24	Joint Services at *Glebe St James United*	10:00 a.m.	650 Lyon St.
Aug. 31	Joint Services at **St Giles Presbyterian**	10:00 a.m.	181 First Ave.

***St. Giles is open for the Sunday of August 24**

****Joint service with Holy Communion Sunday of August 31**



Mission Moment

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, staff of the Synod of Saskatchewan provide essential support to congregations and presbyteries through a variety of programs, including youth initiatives, Vacation Bible School, seniors' ministries, and rural summer activities led by seminary students. This funding also helps support a dynamic summer program at Camp Christopher, which offers primarily inner-city children the opportunity to engage with nature and experience a week in a welcoming, inclusive Christian community.



(Photo from PCC)



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