

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Honey from the Rock, 2016, by Daisy Tsai, acrylic and oil and terra skin. Echoing Psalm 81:16, "I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

August 31, 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

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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.

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Sing aloud to God who is our strength!

All: Raise a shout of joy to the God of all generations!

One: For our God feeds us with the finest wheat;

All: with honey from the rock God will satisfy.

One: Let us worship the Lord our God,

**All: For God has done great things for us,
and so we bring God praise.**

****Hymn:** O God beyond all praising

448

Prayer of Adoration

God of all generations, you are the Source of all life and the strength of our lives. You know us through and through. In Jesus Christ, you entered our lives and showed us how to live with hope and generosity. Through the Holy Spirit, you nourish us each day to inspire acts of hospitality and kindness to those we meet. As we worship you, fill us with your living water to refresh our faith, and make us a blessing to others as we serve you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Welcoming God, we confess we too often fall short of the kindness and compassion we meet in Jesus. You have welcomed us like guests to a banquet, yet we find it hard to welcome a stranger in church. You have shown us what matters most in life, but we are distracted by worries, busy with things that really do not matter. Forgive us, O God. Teach us to honour you and those we meet in all we do and say, for the sake of Christ, our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon

While it is true that we have sinned and fallen short of God's hope for us, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's amazing love. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven. So be at peace with God, with yourself, and with one another.

Scripture

First Reading: Hebrews 13:1–16

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep

your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So, we can say with confidence,

The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by regulations about food, which have not benefited those who observe them. We have an altar from which those who officiate in the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. Therefore, Jesus also suffered outside the city gate in order to sanctify the people by his own blood. Let us then go to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Psalms 81:1, 10–16 *(with refrain 2)*

Sing aloud to God our strength;

shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

I am the Lord your God,

who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

“But my people did not listen to my voice;

Israel would not submit to me.

**So, I gave them over to their stubborn hearts,
to follow their own counsels.**

**O that my people would listen to me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!**

Then I would quickly subdue their enemies
and turn my hand against their foes.

Those who hate the Lord would cringe before me,
and their doom would last forever.

**I would feed you with the finest of the wheat,
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”**

Second Reading: Luke 14:7–11

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host,

and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Lift up your hearts **526**

Sermon Honey from the Rock

****Hymn:** Brother, sister, let me serve you **635**

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

Doxology: **830**

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:** You satisfy the hungry heart **538**

Breaking the Bread / Blessing the Cup

Prayer After Communion

****Hymn:** Go to the World (to the tune of Sine Nomine)

**Go to the world! Go into all the earth;
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Go to the world! Go into every place;
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace;
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
The nights of tears give way to joyful day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Go to the World! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the host of glory cry, "Amen."
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

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Benediction

Postlude *St. Anthony Chorale*

att. Franz J. Haydn

St Giles Events

Wednesday, September 03 ~ 12:30 a.m.

St Giles Women's Association in person meeting. Bring your own lunch and bring a friend. **All Women Welcome!**

Thursday, September 04 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome.

Friday, September 05 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Revelations 14, the Lamb and the Redeemed

Sunday September 07 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School will resume

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).

Fall Youth Retreat - Grounded

The Presbyteries of Ottawa and Seaway-Glengarry are delighted to share the return of the Fall Youth Retreat, taking place **Friday October 3-Sunday, October 5 at Gracefield Christian Camp and Retreat Centre**. This event is for youth aged 11-17. This year's theme is Grounded: how do we stay grounded in Jesus as the core of our faith in the midst of everything else life throws our way? The weekend will include worship, learning, and camp activities like archery, hiking, crafts, and wide games (games that take place across the property). Cost is only \$40/youth. Leaders are free if they sleep in a cabin with youth or \$25 to stay in White Pine (maybe sharing a

room with another leader). A bus will leave St. Paul's Church, 971 Woodroffe Avenue, Ottawa at 6:30 pm on Friday and return to St. Paul's for 4:30 on Sunday. Leaders are responsible for making sure there is at least 1 leader per 5 youth attending but are welcome to work with other congregations to share leaders. **RSVP** with number of youths, preferred cabin assignment (male or female), and food restrictions **by September 26**. Questions and RSVP to the Presbytery Animator, Sunjay Henry: prezminanimator@gmail.com

Presbytery Bible Study

Presbytery Bible Study: Our weekly Bible study will resume on Monday, September 8th at 12 noon on Zoom. We will begin by studying the book of Hebrews. E-mail Presbytery Ministry Animator Sunjay Henry at prezminanimator@gmail.com

Youth Leaders Summit Announcement:

All youth pastors, workers and volunteers are invited to an evening of dinner, learning, prayer and encouragement hosted by the Presbytery Ministry Animator. This event will take place on **Friday September 5, 2025**, at 7 pm at St. Paul's Church, 971 Woodroffe Avenue, Ottawa. Please email prezminanimator@gmail.com or RSVP with the Animator using the following link:
<https://forms.gle/HHxhKjLtyJxpDMUq5>

North American Festival of Wales (NAFOW).

***St Giles is invited to participate** in two amazing participatory hymn singing sessions, known in Welsh as a "Gymanfa Ganu." These sessions will take place at **Christ Church Cathedral, 414 Sparks St on Sunday afternoon, August 31, 2- 3.30 p.m. and 4.30-6 p.m.** (free will offering).

Please contact me if you need more information or you can visit our website at <http://www.festivalofwales.org>.

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)



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