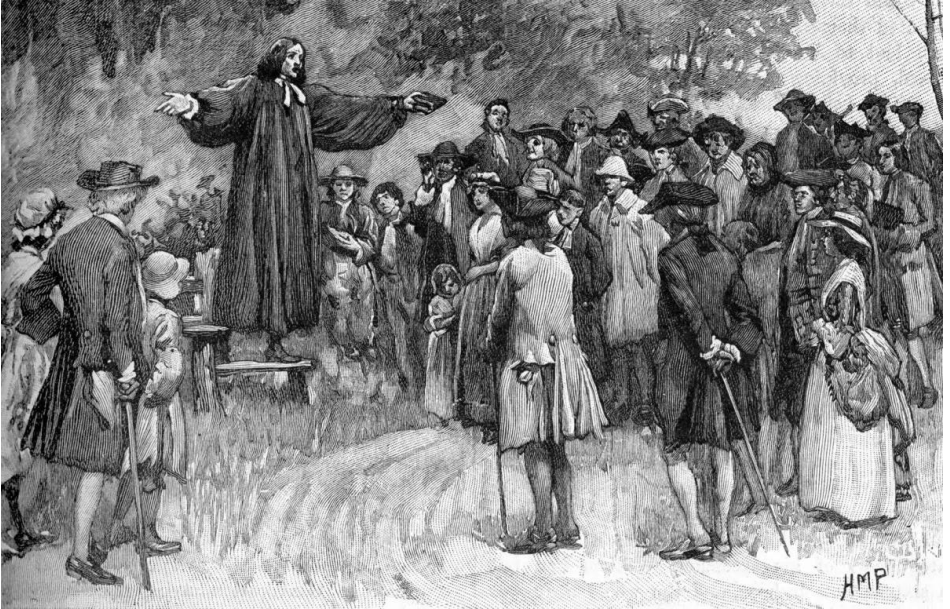


St Giles Presbyterian Church



*Jonathan Edwards preaching at Enfield, Connecticut, July 8th, 1741,
at a time of Great Awakenings.*

September 14, 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.

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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.

Prelude: *I Was Full of Joy*

Anon

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: O God, you have searched us and known us.

**All: You know when we sit down
and when we rise up.**

One: You discern our thoughts from far away.

**All: Before a word is on our tongues, Lord,
you know it completely.**

One: Such knowledge is too wonderful for us,
and so we humble ourselves in worship.

**All: Search us and know our hearts again, O God,
and lead us in the way everlasting.**

****Hymn:** Father, we praise thee

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Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Storytelling God, we gather in your presence this day,
called by the stories of your people over the centuries.
You are the source of wisdom we seek, your mercy
eases the troubles that stir our hearts.

And we come to praise you, for your stories have the power to challenge us and change us. Draw near to us as we draw near to you this day. Tell us the stories that will change our lives, through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Unison Prayer of Confession

We gather in Jesus' name to hear the stories he told, to gain wisdom and to know your Spirit's guidance. Yet we confess that pride prevents us from hearing the good news and that we resist the power of your Word to change us. Forgive what we have been, help us amend who we are, and set us free to be who you have called us to be.

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

The Apostle Paul asked, "Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays

for us.” Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God’s most generous grace. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Jeremiah 4:11–12, 22–28

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward the daughter of my people, not to winnow or cleanse, a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.

“For my people are foolish;
they do not know me;
they are stupid children;
they have no understanding.

They are skilled in doing evil
but do not know how to do good.”

I looked on the earth, and it was complete chaos,
and to the heavens, and they had no light.

I looked on the mountains, and they were quaking,
and all the hills moved to and fro.

I looked, and there was no one at all,
and all the birds of the air had fled.

I looked, and the fruitful land was a desert,
and all its cities were laid in ruins
before the Lord, before his fierce anger.

For thus says the Lord:

The whole land shall be a desolation,
yet I will not make a full end.

Because of this the earth shall mourn
and the heavens above grow black,
for I have spoken; I have purposed;
I have not relented, nor will I turn back.

Psalms 14 (with refrain 1)

Refrain:

**Glorious Lord yourself impart,
we would seek and love and fear you.**

Fools say in their hearts,

"There is no God."

**They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;
there is no one who does good.**

The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind,
to see if there are any who are wise,
who seek after God.

**They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;
there is no one who does good,
no, not one.**

Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers
who eat up my people as they eat bread,
and do not call upon the LORD?

**There they shall be in great terror,
for God is with the company of the righteous.
You would confound the plans of the poor,
but the LORD is their refuge.**

O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!

**When the LORD restores the fortunes of the people,
Jacob will rejoice;
Israel will be glad.**

Refrain

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

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St Giles Events

Monday, September 15 ~ 3:30 p.m.

Finance and Maintenance in person meeting.

Thursday, September 18 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, to God be the glory.

Friday, September 19 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Revelations 17–18, The Final Battle I.



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

CCSAC in support of our Centretown Community Food Centre

The Food Centre served over 15,000 hungry neighbours in 2024, a 54% increase over 2023. We are fundraising for the 10th annual Walk for the Centre, October 5, 2025, from 1:30 - 4:30 pm. We are hoping for the support of our parishioners, youth groups and choirs for church teams as we raise much needed funds for the Food Centre. We will meet in person in Canadian Martyrs church (100 Main St.) for our 10th annual festivities of music, guests and a Piper band to walk the Western Rideau River Pathway. Please endorse our Walk with an announcement after your Sunday Service.

We will enjoy the music and song of a Banjo performer at 1:40 pm, Guest Speakers followed by the Son's of Scotland Piper Band to lead us into the Walk at 2:20 pm. We welcome you and our parishioners to join us in our event and to remember us in prayer for our success. Thank you. www.centretownchurches.org/walkathon

Ottawa School of Theology & Spirituality

The Ottawa School of Theology & Spirituality are offering courses for the Fall and Winter Term 2025. Most courses are offered by Zoom but a few are in person at All Saints in Westboro, Ottawa. Courses start September 22 till October 27 for the 1st session and November 3rd to December 1 for the 2nd session. Their home page is <https://www.osts.ca>. For further details please see poster and brochures at the side door entrance of St Giles.

St Matthew's Creation Matters

St. Matthew's Anglican Church at 217 First Avenue has an environmental group called Creation Matters and they have invited anyone from St Giles interested to attend their meeting on **Tuesday September 30 7:30-8PM.**

St. Matthew's Creation Matters will be joined by John Kirkwood, President of [Ottawa Renewable Energy Co-operative \(OREC\)](#), for a 20 minute presentation touching on climate change, advocacy for progressive energy policies, renewable energy, co-op model community participation, and investment and partnership development opportunities. A time for questions and answers follows.

Mission Moment

Next week (September 21) we will celebrate the global event, International Day of Peace. Established by the United Nations in 1981, it allows individuals, groups, and nations to reflect on and take action to promote peace within their communities. PWS&D is committed to fostering peace by providing lifesaving aid, psychosocial support, hygiene kits and medical supplies to people affected by conflict in the world.



(Photo from PCC)



The Presbyterian Church in Canada