

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Air Canada flight attendants protesting against unpaid and unfair work, on August 13, 2025. The Canadian Press file photo.

September 21, 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.

Prelude: *Récit de Cornet*

François Couperin

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Praise the name of the Lord.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

One: From the rising of the sun to its setting, praise God.

**All: We will bless God's holy name
now and evermore.**

One: The glory of the Lord is high above the heavens,
but God raises up the poor and needy on the earth.

All: So, we will sing God's praise.

One: Let us worship God.

****Hymn:** O Jesus, Lord of heavenly grace **818**
(to the tune of Melcombe, #401)

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God our Creator, you sustain your creation as the source of life for every precious thing. You have given us more than we could ever earn or deserve, and so we offer you our love and loyalty, for without you, we would not be. Receive our worship this day, O God. Speak to us in the sounds and silence of this hour, and amaze us with the promise of new life revealed in Jesus Christ, and your power at work in us and among us through the Spirit.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Generous God, you have enriched us with life worth living, but we confess we often squander your good gifts. We have wasted our time and energy but held tightly to things we think we need. Forgive our foolish priorities and those times we overlooked the needs of others. Inspire us to live more generously, trusting your goodness to sustain us always.

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

Friends in Christ, while it is true that we have squandered God's good gifts, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. Trust the mercy of God, and be at peace with God, with yourself, and with one another. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Amos 8:4–7

Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,
buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Psalms 113 (*with refrain 1*)

Refrain: **From the rising up of the sun
may the Lord be praised, praise to the name of the Lord.**

Praise the Lord!

**Praise, O servants of the Lord;
praise the name of the Lord.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord
from this time on and forevermore.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

The Lord is high above all nations,
and God's glory above the heavens.

**Who is like the Lord our God,
who is seated on high,
Who looks far down
on the heavens and the earth?**

The Lord raises the poor from the dust,
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

To make them sit with princes,
with princes of the people.

**The LORD gives the barren woman a home,
making her the joyous mother of children.**

Praise the LORD!

Refrain

Second Reading: Luke 16:1–13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So, he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his

master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** When voices are confusing

636

(to the tune of Aurelia, #479)

Sermon Dishonestly Faithful

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** As a fire is meant for burning

(tune of Beach Spring, #262)

**As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission,
giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs,
but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations,
finding neighbours everywhere.**

**We are learners; we are teachers;
we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers;
we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions,
we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, listening Spirit,
we would live to God's delight.**

**As a green bud in the springtime
is the sign of life renewed,
so may we be signs of oneness
'mid earth's peoples, many hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens
when a storm is past and gone,
may our lives reflect the radiance
of God's new and glorious dawn.**

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:** Lord of all power 626

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **Amen.**

Postlude *Offertoire sur les Grands jeux* François Couperin



Ruth Duck (1947-2024), writer of this morning's hymn 'As A Fire Is Meant For Burning' was an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ. She taught at Garret-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. She wrote c200 hymns with universal and non-gendered language. Ruth Duck's hymns are in hymnals of many denominations.

St Giles Events

Wednesday, September 24 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Archival Committee in person meeting.

Thursday, September 25 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Session in person meeting.

Thursday, September 25 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome.

Friday, September 26 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Revelations 19–20, The Final Battle II.

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. **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.**

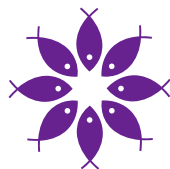
St. Matthew's Creation Matters will be joined by John Kirkwood, President of [Ottawa Renewable Energy Co-operative \(OREC\)](#), for a 20 minute presentation touching on climate change, advocacy for progressive energy policies, renewable energy, co-op model community participation, and investment and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

Mission Moment

On Presbyterians Sharing Sunday we thank God for the generosity of Presbyterians across Canada who, through their gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, support the mission and ministry we do together, locally, nationally and internationally. Through these gifts, we continue Christ's ministry in the world God loves. When we put our gifts in God's hands, God does remarkable things.



(Photo from PCC)



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