

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Angel of Grief, 1894, relief sculpture by William Wetmore Story, in the Protestant Cemetery in Rome.

October 5, 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.

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We come as guests invited to a table.

**All: We come to celebrate with friends
and neighbours.**

One: Jesus Christ, our Friend and Saviour,
invites us to gather.

All: We gather with his friends around the world.

One: Come and worship
with hearts full of God's praise and promise.

**All: We worship God in gladness,
for God's faithfulness endures forever.**

****Hymn:** Let us with a gladsome mind

96

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Gracious and Generous God, you spread a banquet table and make room for all to come: friend and foe, healed and sick, hopeful and hopeless. You feed our desires with goodness and fill our longing with steadfast love. So, we worship you with grateful praise, together with all your people, here and everywhere, who break bread at your table and who share the cup. We celebrate our life together in Christ and offer our love and loyalty to you, O God, source of all goodness, through Jesus Christ who shares our flesh, and your Holy Spirit who prays within us.

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy and mystery, when you invite us to your table,
you ask us to come with clean hands and open hearts. You ask us to come in peace, seeking reconciliation with you and with each other. In this silence, we hand over to you the broken relationships, disagreements and disappointments that keep us from living in your peace. Free us from the burdens we carry which we share in this silence, so that we may be a source of peace in this troubled world:**

(Hold silence for 20 seconds)

Assurance of Pardon

Hear and believe this good news! Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven. Have the courage to forgive one another, and be at peace – with God, with your neighbour and with yourself.

Amen.

Scripture

First Reading: Lamentations 3:19–26

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!

My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."
The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.

Psalms 137 (with refrain 1)

Refrain:

**By the waters the waters of Babylon, we sat down
and wept and wept for Zion**

We remember, we remember, we remember Zion

By the rivers of Babylon –
there we sat down and there wept
when we remembered Zion.

**On the willows there
we hung up our harps.**

**For there our captors
asked us for songs,**

**And our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,
"Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"**

How could we sing the LORD's song
in a foreign land?

**If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!**

**Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth,
if I do not remember you,**

**If I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy.**

Remember, O LORD, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem's fall,

How they said,

**"Tear it down! Tear it down!
Down to its foundations!"**

O daughter Babylon, you devastator!

**Blessed shall they be who pay you back
what you have done to us!**

Blessed shall they be who take your little ones
and dash them against the rock!

Refrain

Second Reading: Luke 17:5–10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"
The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a
mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be
uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey
you.

"Who among you would say to your slave who has
just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the
field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the

table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** By the Babylonian rivers **98**

Sermon The Steadfast Love of the Lord

****Hymn:** The steadfast love of the Lord **20**

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

Anthem For the Bread Which Thou Hast Broken

(by W.B. Roberts)

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.

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:** All who hunger, gather gladly **534**

Breaking the Bread / Blessing the Cup

Prayer After Communion

****Hymn:** With the Lord as my guide **574**

Benediction

Postlude *Trompette Jubilante* Craig Penfield



Our opening hymn 'Let Us with a Gladstone Mind' was written by John Milton (1608-1674) Milton was a 15 year old school boy at St. Paul's London when he wrote 24 stanzas as a version of psalm 136. Several stanzas deal with nature. The refrain of the psalm - 'for His mercy endureth forever' appears at the end of each stanza.

Austin Lovelace

St Giles Events

Tuesday, October 07 ~ 1:00 p.m.

St Giles Presbyterian Women, will be meeting in person at the church.

Thursday, October 09 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome.

Friday, October 10 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. the Book of Revelations 22 The New Heaven and New Earth.

Thanksgiving Letter

Thanksgiving letter is ready for pickup. Due to the recent postal strike, we are asking members and adherents of St. Giles to pick their annual Thanksgiving Letter (organized by last name alphabetically) after today's worship service. The letter contains an address by the minister, as inspired by Psalm 136, on the nature of giving thanks. It also contains an offering envelop encouraging generous giving towards the mission and ministries of St. Giles. Those letters not picked up today, efforts will be made to deliver them to your mailbox in the following days. Email version of the same letter will also be sent to those with updated email address in our record. Happy Thanksgiving!

Talk Film, Talk Faith

An opportunity for folks of the downtown Presbyterian community (Knox, St Giles, St Andrew's) to view and discuss a film together. This month, 'Colours of Time' (La Venue de l'Avenir), exploring family dynamics through the story of cousins who inherit an old house in rural Normandy and explore the lives of their ancestors in 19th century Paris. French language with English subtitles. <https://www.bytowne.ca/movies/colours->

of-time-la-venue-de-lavenir/ Sunday October 19, 5:45 p.m. at the Bytowne Cinema on Rideau Street. Discussion will follow in the home of Andrew Johnston, a ten minute walk from the Bytowne. For further information, speak to Stan Currie or email Andrew. RSVP requested by Friday October 17 to Andrew at talkfilmtalkfaith@gmail.com

Centretown Community Food Centre Walk

"The Walk in support of the Centretown Community Food Centre will take place next Sunday, October 5th. Jean Currie is taking donations which will be delivered on the day of the Walk. You can make donations online at <https://www.centretownchurches.org/news/> in support of our team, St. Giles Walkers. Donations can also be made online after the Walk until the end of October. Stan Currie is looking for other St. Giles people who would like to walk with us. Talk to Stan if you are interested in joining us on the Walk."

Do You Know of a New Space for House to Home? (CCSAC)

The organization 'House to Home: Furnishing Homes for Refugees' is on the lookout for a new space for their warehouse. They are currently in Westgate Mall which has been sold so this charity needs a new place from which to operate. They will have to leave by October 31st and are desperately in search of another space. Does anyone in our member churches know of a suitable space for this organization? If anyone knows any possible warehouse space that can be used, that would be very helpful too. The lady in charge is Suzi Shore Sauve and the email for the organization is fromhousetohomeottawa@gmail.com

Mission Moment

Through Regional Resourcing Grants, The Presbyterian Church in Canada supports camps across the country that offer safe, welcoming spaces for children and youth. These camps nurture young hearts and minds by planting seeds of faith while providing opportunities for fun, discovery, and personal growth. From high ropes and canoeing to crafts and coding, they inspire curiosity and adventure, all while sharing the message of God's love.



(Photo from PCC)



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