

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Unjust Judge and the Importunate Widow, 1864, print, by John Everett Millais, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*.

October 19, 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
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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: *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

Henry Purcell/Rachel Aarons

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: God promises us justice,

All: and teaches us persistence.

One: God promises us compassion,

All: and teaches us not to lose heart.

One: God promises to be with us

All: and teaches us to tend to each other.

One: So let us worship our God
of comfort and challenge,

**All: We will offer prayers and praise
to our God of hope and healing.**

****Hymn:** Come sing, O church, in joy!

757

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit, you breathe life into all things and nourish your whole creation. You are a rock and refuge for your people, for you are

trustworthy in all things. Your desire for peace with justice can never be defeated. You alone can bring life out of death, and restore wholeness to broken lives, so we praise you and rejoice in the hope you offer. For your love is the power at work in every situation, seeking goodness and revealing truth, a love that will never let us go. In our time of worship, we offer you our love and loyalty through Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of our hopes and our hearts, you provide the gift of faith, but we lose heart quickly. Troubles weaken our trust, and disappointments eat away at our commitment. Forgive us and create in us clean hearts and in your love, give us peace and perseverance.

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

Remember, the promise of the Apostle Paul declares: What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the God who loves us. Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. For that we give thanks.
Amen.

Scripture

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:27–34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the Lord. In those days they shall no longer say:

The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on edge."

But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of the one who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I

made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Psalms 119:97–104 (with refrain 1)

**Refrain: Open our eyes that we may see
the wonders of your law.**

Oh, how I love your law!

It is my meditation all day long.

**Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is always with me.**

I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your decrees are my meditation.

I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.

**I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.**

**I do not turn away from your ordinances,
for you have taught me.**

How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**Through your percepts I gain understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.**

Second Reading: Luke 18:1–8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you; he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** What a friend we have in Jesus

746

Sermon Written on Our Hearts

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Amigos de Cristo / Friends of the Lord **476**

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:** God of grace and God of glory **490**

Benediction

Postlude *Psalm of Glory* Lani Smith



St Giles Events

Thursday, October 23 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome.

Friday, October 24 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study will be taking a break for two weeks

Joining the Meeting, Conference Call or Bible Study

1. Three to five minutes before the start time, call toll-free 1-888-884-4539.
2. You will be asked to enter the passcode number 7455703#.





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/> This evening, 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. Contact Andrew at talkfilmtalkfaith@gmail.com to confirm there is still room.

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

From all of us at The Presbyterian College, we extend warm best wishes for Thanksgiving, Roland De Vries, Principal

Thanksgiving in Threes

O Living God, you who are Three-in-One and One-in-Three, we give thanks and praise for your abundant gifts—your mercy and grace. We give thanks...

For friends who challenge, bless, and care.

For books that confound, enlighten, and teach.

For scriptures that nourish, correct, and upbuild.

For Jesus, who heals, forgives, and saves.

For ancestors of faith who teach, surround, and bless.

For land that provides, sustains, and flourishes.

For strangers who appear, accompany, and befriend.

For birds that migrate, nest, and fly.

For hands that comfort, touch, caress.

For Holy Spirit who fills, overflows, and speaks.

For teachers guiding, inviting, and sharing.

For critters burrowing, slinking, and slithering.

For sun that warms, energizes, renews.

For faith that encourages, upends, and calls.

For work that satisfies, serves, and provides.

For all we have through the Son, and from Father to whom He prays, and by the Holy Spirit who draws us into the life of Three-in-One and One-in-Three.

AMEN

Mission Moment

Presbyterians Sharing supports lay leaders, including those in prison communities, through access to courses offered by Theological Education by Extension in Malawi. The Certificate program in Biblical Studies expands participants' biblical knowledge, fosters collaborative leadership, and increases leadership capacity. Edina shares, "I used to sit at the back during meetings and just listen. I had ideas burning inside me, but I lacked the confidence and the knowledge to speak up or guide others. Through this program, I've gained not just biblical insight, but the courage to lead."



(Photo from PCC)



Presbyterians
Sharing



The Presbyterian Church in Canada