

# St Giles Presbyterian Church



*"The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me." Isaiah 49:1*

**January 18, 2026**

# **St Giles Presbyterian Church**

## **Greeting and Welcome**

Leading in worship is our minister the Rev. Paul Wu. We welcome Aditi Magdalena to St. Giles and thank her for singing while Katie Gratton is away with her family.

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](mailto:office@stgilesottawa.org) [www.stgilesottawa.org](http://www.stgilesottawa.org)

Minister: The Rev. Paul Wu 613-276-2551 [paulwu55@yahoo.ca](mailto: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](mailto:gowans978@gmail.com)

Guest Vocalist: Aditi Magdalena

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*

F. Couperin

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: O Lord, open our lips,

**All: And our mouths shall declare your praise.**

One: O Lord, open our eyes,

**All: So that we may behold your presence.**

One: O Lord, open our ears,

**All: So that we may hear your call to follow.**

One: O Lord, open our hearts,

**All: So that we may offer you worship  
in spirit and truth.**

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

757

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God, our Creator and Redeemer, your faithfulness endures forever. You offer us new life in Christ Jesus and call us to follow him. You challenge us to bring life and hope to the world you love. In you we find strength and courage to face challenges everyday.

And so we offer our praise and gratitude to you, O God, with Christ and the Spirit, one God, now and always.

### Unison Prayer of Confession

**Faithful God, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost yet it's hard to recognize we have lost our way. We follow the trends of our culture rather than examples set by Jesus. We forget we are chosen, by you, for the service of your kingdom. Wash over us with your cleansing Spirit, and renew our commitment to follow your will revealed in Christ Jesus.**

### 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, forever. Amen**

### Assurance of Pardon

Let us rejoice, for God has put a new song in our mouths! Trust in God's enduring love and mercy, washing over us every day. Know that forgiveness is yours through the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Scripture

### First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands;  
pay attention, you peoples from far away!  
The Lord called me before I was born;  
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.  
He made my mouth like a sharp sword;  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow;  
in his quiver he hid me away.  
And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."  
But I said, "I have labored in vain;  
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the Lord  
and my reward with my God."  
And now the Lord says,  
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,  
and my God has become my strength—  
he says,  
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end  
of the earth."

Thus says the Lord,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,  
the slave of rulers,  
"Kings shall see and stand up;  
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the Lord, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Psalm 40:1–11 (*with refrain 2*)

I waited patiently for the Lord;  
**who inclined to me and heard my cry.**  
**The Lord drew me up from the desolate pit,**  
**out of the miry bog,**  
**and set my feet upon a rock,**  
**making my steps secure.**

The Lord put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God.

**Many will see and fear**  
**and put their trust in the Lord.**

Blessed are those who make  
the Lord their trust,  
**who do not turn to the proud,**  
**to those who go astray after false gods.**

You have multiplied, O Lord my God,  
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;  
none can compare with you.

**Were I to proclaim and tell of them,  
they would be more than can be counted.**

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,  
but you have given me an open ear.  
Burnt offering and sin offering  
you have not required.

**Then I said, "Here I am;  
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.  
I delight to do your will, O my God;  
your law is within my heart."**

I have told the glad news of deliverance  
in the great congregation;  
**see, I have not restrained my lips,  
as you know, O Lord.**

I have not hidden your saving help within my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness  
and your salvation;

**I have not concealed your steadfast love  
and your faithfulness  
from the great congregation.**

Do not, O Lord, withhold  
your mercy from me;  
**let your steadfast love and your faithfulness  
keep me safe forever.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:7–13

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him. I pray, therefore, that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Hymn:** We are God's people

**472**

Sermon Chosen to Serve

Prayers of the People

**\*\*Hymn:** We cannot own the sunlit sky

**717**

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, you give the great commission

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Benediction

Postlude *Presto in C minor*

*J.S. Bach*



## St Giles Events

**Thursday, January 22 ~ 5:30 p.m.**

**Choir Practice**, all are welcome.

**Friday, January 23 ~ 12:00 p.m.**

**Bible Study** by teleconference. The Book of Samuel 9, 10:1-17, Rise of Saul as King.

### Mission Related Giving at December 31/25

Mission	Donations So Far	2025 Goal
Operating Account	\$81,600.59	\$83,000.00
Special Sundays	5,390.75	7,500.00
Presbyterian Sharing	\$4,034.00	\$12,000.00
PWS&D	3,180.00	n/a
Presbyterian College	2,580.00	5,000.00

### Year End Reports

Anyone who has a report or other input for the St Giles Annual Report should provide a digital copy to the church office no later than **Wednesday, February 04, 2026**. Please edit your submission before sending it. Contact the church administrator at [office@stgilesottawa.org](mailto:office@stgilesottawa.org) if you have any questions.

## **Presbytery Youth Event**

Join us on Saturday, January 31st from 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm at St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa (82 Kent Street) for an afternoon to bust the winter blues and exam stress. Come and try a Winterlude Scavenger Hunt with friends old and new. Snacks and hot chocolate provided for warming up afterwards at St. Andrew's. Parking is available at the Supreme Court or on the street. Youth groups can enter through the green doors on Kent Street. Waivers must be signed in order to attend.

For your convenience a physical waiver can be found on the side entrance bulletin board and a digital waiver can be found at the following link.

<https://forms.gle/gZZ9chogz1z9V2zYA>

## **Presbyterian College**

The Presbyterian College is offering a six-week online course, starting March 10, 2026, on Pastoral Visiting and Care. This study will introduce you to important themes around care, visiting, grief, life transitions, in order to build your comfort and confidence in visiting and care for others. For more information, please contact the Rev. Paul Wu (or check out this link:

<https://presbyteriancollege.ca/2025/12/15/pastoralvisiting/>

## Mission Moment

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, two young adults from the PCC attended the Starpoint Youth Festival in July 2025, hosted by the Reformed Church in Hungary. Over 3000 participants from over nine countries gathered for worship, discussions about mental health, and recreational activities and concerts. Participants returned home renewed as Christians, and will share what they learned with their local communities.



(Photo from PCC)



Presbyterians  
Sharing



The Presbyterian Church in Canada