

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Christ's Agony in the Garden, 20th century, freestanding sculpture, by L.T. Drury, Abbey of Gethsemani, KY, United States

March 29, 2026

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 12 p.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: *En Prière (In Prayer)*

Gabriel Fauré

Translation: Edith Braun

If the voice of a child can reach you, O my Father
Listen to the prayer of Jesus on His knees, before You
If you have chosen me to teach Your laws on the earth,
I will know how to serve you holy King of Kings, O Light!
Place on my lips, O Lord, the salutary truth,
So that whoever doubts, should with humility revere you!
Do not abandon me, give me the gentleness so necessary,
To relieve the suffering, to alleviate pains, the misery!
Reveal Yourself to me, Lord, in whom I have faith and hope,
I want to suffer for You and to die on the Cross at Calvary!

by Stéphan Bordèse

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

**All: He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.**

One: He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless.

**All: Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted,**

One: but those who wait for the Lord
shall renew their strength;

**All: they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.**

****Hymn:** Hail, our once-rejected Jesus

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Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of majesty and mercy, we worship today, as the Cross looms larger on the horizon. We praise you for Jesus, the Ruler who came in humility to free us from captivity. He came in mercy to free us from the sins we recognize in ourselves, and the sins we easily overlook. He came to show us the full extent of your mercy, love and justice. So, we praise you for your kindness and the strength you show to lift our burdens and shoulder them for us in Christ Jesus. We come in humility, knowing you have given us your all, to worship you as Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mystery and mercy, your mercy and forgiveness are a mystery to us. We fail to show mercy to others when they fall short of our expectations. We keep silent rather than speak up when others are in trouble. We prefer what is easy to what is right, even though your Spirit draws our attention. We seek your forgiveness, O God, and ask that you make us more forgiving. Inspire us with the costly choices Jesus made as he moved toward the Cross, and give us the courage to follow him.

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

Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4–9a

The Lord God has given me
a trained tongue,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens,
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Psalm 31:9–16 (with refrain 1)

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;
my eye wastes away from grief,
my soul and body also.

**For my life is spent with sorrow
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery,
and my bones waste away.**

I am the scorn of all my adversaries,
a horror to my neighbors,
an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.

**I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.**

**For I hear the whispering of many—
terror all around!—
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.**

But I trust in you, O Lord;
I say, “You are my God.”

My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and
persecutors.

**Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.**

Second Reading: Matthew 26: 36–46

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not what I want but what you want." Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Now the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** To mock your reign, O dearest Lord **223**
(to the tune of Kingsfold, #671)

Sermon Not as I will but as You will

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** My song is love unknown **220**

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:** He leadeth me **650**

Benediction

Postlude: *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen* Johannes Brahms
(*O World, I Must Leave You*)



St Giles Events

Wednesday, April 01 ~ 12:30 p.m.

St Giles Presbyterian Women will be meeting in person at the church. Bag lunch at 12:30. Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 02 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome.

Friday, April 03 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study will be taking a break resuming on April 10th

Friday, April 03 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Good Friday joint service with Bytown Community Church.

Sunday, April 05 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Easter Service

Position Available

St. Andrew's Church, Stittsville is looking for a part-time office administrator, who will work together with the minister, music director and congregation to assist in communication and Sunday worship preparation. For more information, please check to posted bulletin.

Cornerstone Shelter

The St. Giles Presbyterian Women wish to thank the congregation members who donated to our project of the Cornerstone shelter for women. We appreciate your help and now have \$320.00 to give. Thanks again to you all.

Oxfam Canada Stamps Program

Thank you for your stamp donation. Your donations will help us save lives in disasters, tackle the root causes of poverty and hold the powerful accountable. Because of people like you, Oxfam can take on the big issues that keep people poor: inequality, discrimination and unequal access to resources including food, water and decent work. Ending poverty is possible. Together, we can ensure poverty is eliminated altogether. Thank you for your support of the Oxfam Stamps Program. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach us at stamps@oxfam.ca.

Presbytery Youth Event **Spring into new life**

Join us on Saturday April 11th from 2-5pm at St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, 579 Parkdale Avenue, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, presbytery youth style. There will be worship, discussions, games and a tasty Easter snack you have to taste to believe. If you have any questions or want to RSVP, Email Sunjay at prezminimator@gmail.com.

Faith Formation in a Phone First Generation

How is social media shaping the faith of young people, and how should we respond? This event, sponsored by IntreVarsity, taking place on April 8, at 7 pm, at St. Peter & St. Paul's Anglican Church, Ottawa, will explore that question through thoughtful conversation, research insights, and stories from ministry on the ground. Check the posted bulletin for more information.

Mission Moment

In the mountains of Bamyan, Afghanistan, 65-year-old Ghulam Hussain has endured a lifetime of hardship. After losing his first wife, he cared for their infant son alone before remarrying and having three more children. He worked tirelessly as a labourer to support them. But after the death of his oldest son, Ghulam experienced severe mental health issues that left him unable to work, leaving his family in poverty. With his wife, Sabira, struggling to find work amid limited opportunities, hope came through a Cash-for-Food program supported by PWS&D. "For the first time in years, my children went to bed with full stomachs," Sabira shares with deep gratitude.



(Photo from PCC)



Presbyterian
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