

St Giles Presbyterian Church

Anniversary Sunday



The Corner Stone of St. Giles Presbyterian Church (A.D. 1926), at the corner of Bank Street and First Avenue, Ottawa.

May 03, 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.

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 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Music Director: Heather Rice 613-563-1409 gowans978@gmail.com

Vocalist: Katie Gratton

Violin: Aditi Gowri

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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: *Bring Forth the Kingdom of God* Marty Haugen

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: God is our Rock and our Fortress.

All: In God, we find refuge and strength.

One: God's house has many dwelling places.

All: We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

One: Christ himself has gone to prepare a place for us.

All: For us, Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

One: So let us worship God in Spirit and in Truth.

****Hymn:** Sing a new song

422

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Steadfast God, you are our refuge in times of trouble, our shelter when we are afraid, and our dwelling place forever. In you alone we place our trust for you set the way before us in Christ Jesus and your Spirit gives us courage to follow him. And so, we offer you

our worship and love as the Source of life for the world, as the Son who preached the truth of grace and mercy, and the Spirit who guides us this day and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Steadfast God, we confess Jesus as the way, the truth and the life for us, yet we often fail to follow him. Too often have we gone our own way, distorted the truth and led hollow lives. Forgive us for falling short of your will for our lives. Give us courage to follow Jesus, who continues to show us the way.

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

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Know that, in Christ, you are forgiven. Accept God's grace and forgiveness this day, and extend it to others in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Psalm 31:1–5 (*with refrain 2*)

In you, O LORD, I seek refuge;

**do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.**

Incline your ear to me;

rescue me speedily.

**Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.**

You are indeed my rock and my fortress;

for your name's sake lead me and guide me,

**take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.**

Into your hand I commit my spirit;

you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

Second Reading: John 14:1–7

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the

truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** We are God's people **472**

Sermon You are a chosen people

Prayers of the People

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

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering: Fantasia on Handel Aditi Gowri

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:** O Jesus, I have promised **569**
(to the tune of Thornbury #477)

Benediction

Postlude *Sonata in A, Allegro* Georg F. Handel



Anniversary Sunday

We welcome Aditi Gowri to St Giles Church this morning and thank her for playing the violin.





St Giles Events

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

Choir Practice, all are welcome.

Friday, May 01 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Samuel 26, 27
David Spares Saul's Life Again

Tuesday, May 12 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Sessions in person meeting

Saturday, May 23 ~ 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Great Glebe Garage Sale

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#.



Sunday School Leader and Volunteers' Event

The Presbytery Youth Working Group is hosting a Sunday School leader and volunteers' event on May 30th. We hope this event will give Sunday School volunteers of all types a chance to connect, share ideas, and learn new ways to engage children as they learn about Jesus. Fill the google form below to help us structure our time together. If you have any questions, email Sunjay at prezminimator@gmail.com or call/text him at 613-407-8075

Youth Recreational and Leisure Activities Position

Facilitated by a grant under the Canada Summer Jobs program, Parkwood Church, Ottawa has a position opening for summer 2026 for a Youth Recreational and Leisure Activities Program Co-ordinator. Please see poster at side entrance for further details. Please note that applicants must be either Canadian citizens or have permanent residency in Canada or be protected refugees; must be legally entitled to work in the Province of Ontario; and between 17 and 30 years of age. International students are not eligible.

St Stephen's Benefit Concert – May 9 – 7pm

A concert featuring choir and soloists, and some fun sing-along sections. Admission: By free-will offering with proceeds to the St. Stephen's Refugee Sponsorship Fund and the Parkdale Food Centre. Held at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, 579 Parkdale Ave., Ottawa, on May 9th at 7 p.m.



Mission Moment

With support from Presbyterians Sharing, the Presbytery of Assiniboia's Messy Church meets eight times a year across three congregations: First (Regina), Trinity (Grenfell), and Knox (Weyburn). Coordinated by the synod's Youth Coordinator, the Rev. Devon Pattemore, each session features crafts, a themed story, worship, and a shared meal. Designed to engage families unable to attend Sunday worship, it has revitalized struggling congregations, built confidence, and drawn both church members and local families. In some locations, attendance now surpasses traditional services. Messy Church offers flexible, informal faith formation, strengthens community connections, and provides a creative, welcoming space for intergenerational ministry.



(Photo from PCC)



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The Presbyterian Church in Canada