

St Giles Presbyterian Church



*Baptism in the River Jordan during pilgrimage, 2011,
photograph, Jordan River Valley, Israel.*

May 10, 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

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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: *The Stranger of Galilee*

Mrs. C.H. Morris
(Leila N. Morris)

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Let us see you this day, O God;

All: Come to us as light.

One: Let us hear you this day, O God;

All: Come to us as truth.

One: Let us sense your presence, O God;

All: Come to us as love.

One: Come and let us worship God.

All: We have come to rejoice in God, our Saviour.

****Hymn:** All creatures of our God and King

433

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of life, we praise you this day for the gift of your creation, as new life rises around us in flower beds and farmers' fields, in the nests and burrows of your creatures. We praise you for the gift of our lives, and for all those people—from our parents,

grandparents, and great-grandparents to our teachers and coaches and good friends—who have encouraged us along the way. In this time of worship, encourage us in the present moments of our lives, challenging as they may seem. Refresh us with the new life you promise us in Christ Jesus in whose name we praise you as the Spirit prays within us.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of love, we are grateful for the love you bless us with in our homes and families. Yet you know family life is not always easy. Our love for each other gets strained some days. Forgive us if we have taken our family for granted. Give us grace to repair relationships where strain is showing.

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

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? 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 to love more fully by God's generous grace. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Acts 17:22–31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.' "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image

formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Psalms 66:8–20 *(with refrain 1)*

Bless our God, O peoples,
let the sound of God's praise be heard,
**who has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.**

For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net;
you laid burdens on our backs;
**you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.**

I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
I will pay you my vows,
those that my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
**I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**

Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what the Lord has done for me.

I cried aloud to God,

and extolled the Lord with my tongue.

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened

and has given heed to the words of my prayer.

Blessed be God,

who has not rejected my prayer

or removed steadfast love from me.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13–22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,

in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** I come with joy **530**

Sermon The Hope That is in You

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** In the bulb there is a flower **674**

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 bless your church with strength **491**
(tune of Diademata, #274)

Benediction

Postlude *A Song of Joy*

Emma L. Ashford



St Giles Events

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

Sessions in person meeting

Thursday, May 14 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome.

Friday, May 15 ~ 12:00 p.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of Samuel 28, 29
Saul's Desperation.

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

Great Glebe Garage Sale

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.

Hymn Sing at St Andrew's United Church May 24

Hymn sing event to be held at St. Andrew's United Church in Cumberland, 2557 Old Montreal Road, May 24 at 6:30 p.m. The hymn sing will feature favourite hymns led by Lynda and Ernie Cox along with special guest Garth Hampson "The Singing Mountie." There will be special music, duets, solos, and the opportunity to sing your favourite hymns. There is no charge, but free-will offering will be appreciated for St. Andrew's outreach programs.

Mission Moment

Laxmi Bhandari, a 31-year-old mother of two from Nepal, once lived in social isolation. She didn't attend group activities because she was too shy. Then she was invited to take part in a project that helps women and other excluded groups live dignified lives through social and economic empowerment. Laxmi's leadership qualities were quickly recognized, and she was selected as the chair of her Village Women's Group. After learning about poultry and goat farming, Laxmi had the confidence to begin pursuing a livelihood in animal husbandry. PWS&D's support of the International Nepal Fellowship helped to make this happen.



(Photo from PCC)



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