

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Prophet Hosea, 1308-1311, altarpiece, by di Buoninsegna Duccio, Museo dell'Opera del Duomo, Siena, Italy.

June 07, 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: *Christ, Be Our Light*

Bernadette Farrell

Refrain: **Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.**

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Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Rejoice in God's goodness, people of God!

All: We will sing praises to our God.

One: God loves righteousness and justice;

All: We will serve God faithfully.

One: The earth is full of God's steadfast love.

All: We come to worship and offer our love and loyalty

****Hymn:** New every morning is the love

815

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Creator, Christ and Spirit, you are overflowing with love, infinite in kindness, incomparable in glory and the source of all wisdom and knowledge. In you, all things work together for good and are redeemed. Your presence breaks into our lives in transformative ways and you touch us with wonder. In response to your goodness and glory, we offer you thanks with our prayers, praise with our hearts, and honour with our lives, this day and every day, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, whose loving kindness endures forever: we confess that often we have failed to receive and give love; to care for others as we care for ourselves; to pardon and to accept pardon. We remember good intentions that were not put into actions; harsh words said in anger; selfish purposes that caused pain and persistent pride that would not yield. Hear us, O Lord, as in this silence, we make our confession to you...

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

God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Hosea 5:15–6:6

I will return again to my place
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.
In their distress they will beg my favor:

“Come, let us return to the Lord,
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.

After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord;
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;
he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth.”

What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?

What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Therefore, I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.
For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Psalm 50:7-15 (with refrain 2)

"Hear, O my people, and I will speak,
O Israel, I will testify against you.
I am God, your God.

**I do not rebuke you for your sacrifices;
your burnt offerings are continually before me.**

**I will not accept a bull from your house,
or goats from your folds.**

**For every beast of the forest is mine,
the cattle on a thousand hills.**

**I know all the birds of the air,
and all that moves in the field is mine.**

If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the world and everything in it is mine.

Do I eat the flesh of bulls,
or drink the blood of goats?

**Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and pay your vows to the Most High.**

Call on me in the day of trouble;

I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

Second Reading: Matthew 9:9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Tell me the old, old story

499

Sermon God Desires Mercy, Not Sacrifice

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Come, let us to the Lord our God

194

(tune of Belmont #351)

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:** Word of God, across the ages

497

Benediction

Postlude *Festal March*

N.V. Wheeler



St Giles Events

Tuesday, June 09 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Session, meeting in person.

Wednesday, June 10 ~ 12:30 p.m.

The Presbyterian Women, will meet and have a bag lunch before the meeting. Please note the change to the second Wednesday of the month.

Thursday, June 11 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome.

Sunday, June 14 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion



Confirmation Service

The Session of St. Giles has approved the request of Scott Lancaster, to be confirmed in faith in a public worship service. He is a former member of Cushman Memorial Church who was baptized shortly after his birth in April 16, 1970. He has recently completed the education component of the confirmation process with Rev. Paul Wu. The Confirmation Service is schedule to take place on the Sunday of June 14, 2026.

General Assembly

The 151st General Assembly (GA) of the Presbyterian Church in Canada will meet at York University (Keele Campus) from Sunday, June 7 until Thursday, June 11, 2026. The GA is the highest decision-making body of our church, voting on matters of theology and polity that affects the whole denomination. Chrissie Kalonga, an elder of St. Giles, will be attending the GA as a commissioner representing the Presbytery of Ottawa. Justin Wu, a member of St. Giles, has been nominated to serve on the International Affairs Committee (three-year term). Rev. Paul Wu has also been nominated to serve on the Board of the Presbyterian College (2nd three-year term). For those interested, it will be livestream on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iA3QTpkf4z8>)

Interested in Hospital Visitation?

All members of the Presbyterian churches in Ottawa are invited to attend a brief meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, from 5:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Parkwood Church, 10 Chesterton Drive, Ottawa to help us reflect on and serve the current needs of the presbytery regarding hospital visitation. This program has been mostly dormant since COVID-19 shut it down and we would like to know if there is a desire to get it started up and volunteers to help do so. If interested, please attend the meeting, or contact Chris Clarke at cclarke@mywestminster.ca

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.

Mission Moment

The Presbyterian Church in Ghana, through the Garu Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program, supports people living with disabilities as they use their gifts and pursue their goals. "I was really in a very challenging situation before I connected with the CBR. I could not move and was totally helpless. The CBR program and its partners came to my rescue. Today, I am mobile because of the tricycle that I received from the CBR. I now own and run a business to earn a living," shares 41-year-old Awini Agnes. PWS&D supports this program.



(Photo from PCC)



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