

Joint Summer Service

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Woman of Canaan, 1940-1996, print by Sadao Watanabe, Washington, DC, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*.

August 16, 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

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: *Little Prelude on St. Agnes, Durham*

Winnagene Hatch

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Let the nations be glad and sing with joy,

All: For God guides us all with justice and equity.

One: Let the people praise God, for how we have been
blessed;

**All: Come let us worship and offer all honour and
praise.**

****Hymn:** Joyful, joyful we adore you

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Prayer of Adoration

Holy God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, you make all things new, justice and right relations have their source in you, love and peace come from you. You chose to become one of us in Jesus Christ, teaching us your ways and calling us to follow his way. You came to us in the Holy Spirit and your Spirit gives us wisdom, guidance and comfort each day. And so, we praise you for your love which is great enough to embrace the universe, yet close enough to enter our hearts. During our worship, surprise us with your grace that we, with the rest of the church and the whole of creation, may praise and adore you.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have not lived as you have taught us. Forgive us those times we have not welcomed others into our community; and those times we have avoided others because of our fear and prejudices. Forgive us the ways we have judged people unfairly. Reveal to us your ways, and show us how to see your goodness in those who seem different from us.

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

While it is true that we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God, I say, be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Psalms 66 (*with refrain 1*)

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of God's name;
and offer glorious praise!

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
Because of your great power, your enemies cringe
before you.

**All the earth worship you;
they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name."**

Come and see what God has done:
the Lord is awesome in deeds among mortals.

The Lord turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.

**There we rejoiced in God,
who rules by might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations –
let the rebellious not exalt themselves.**

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: Matthew 15:21–28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to

take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** God of mercy, God of grace

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Sermon Have Mercy on Me, Lord

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** All Are Welcome

Marty Haugen

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live.

A place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace,

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true.

Where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign a new.

Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace.

Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus;

Refrain

3. Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat;

A banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space.

As we share in Christ the feast that frees us.

Refrain

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone,

To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face,

Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Refrain

5. Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard.

And loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace.

Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Refrain

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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 of all hopefulness

748

Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Air*

Bert Van Der Hoek

St Giles Events

Sunday, August 30 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion

Bible Study

The Bible Study will reconvene in early September and likely studying the Book of 2 Samuel.

News from Ottawa Campus Chaplaincy:

The Board of Ottawa Campus Chaplaincy would like to inform our supporting community that our current chaplain, Ryan Farrell, has been called to and accepted the position of pastor with Kanata Community Church. Ryan will remain in his current, full-time chaplaincy role until October 17, 2026, in order to support the ministry of OCC in its busy fall launch season. Ryan is currently assisting the board as we work hard to plan for interim measures – including the desire to hire an interim leader – for the coming academic year. We hope to have temporary, alternative staffing support in place by the end of September.

Interim Campus Chaplain:

The Board of Ottawa Campus Chaplaincy is inviting applications for an Interim Campus Chaplain. Interested persons are invited to request a job description by sending an email to board@ottawacampuschaplaincy.org. Applications can be sent to the same address including cover letter and résumé (in PDF format). While candidates are encouraged to apply before September 11, 2026, applications will be received until the position is filled.

Presbytery Youth Bowling Event

Join us for an afternoon for bowling on Saturday September 12th from 2-4 pm at Merivale Bowling Centre (1916 Merivale Road). The event is geared toward youth aged 11-17. The cost is \$10. If you have any questions, email Sunjay at prezminanimator@gmail.com

Mission Moment

Each year, with support from Presbyterians Sharing through Regional Resourcing Grants, the Presbytery of Vancouver Island hosts a retreat that nurtures faith, friendship, and renewal for women. Participants, ranging in age from 19 to 83, reflect the rich diversity of generations growing together in Christ. Through shared worship, meaningful conversations, and engaging activities, participants from across the island deepen their spiritual practices and support one another in their journeys of faith. Guided by inspiring guest speakers and rooted in community, the retreat provides a space to listen, learn, and grow, leaving every participant refreshed, strengthened, and more deeply connected in heart and spirit.



(Photo from PCC)



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