

Joint Summer Service

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Spirit with Sevenfold Gifts, 19th century, Anonymous, stained glass, St. Mary's Iffley, Oxford, UK.

August 23, 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

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We give thanks to God with all our hearts,

All: for God's faithful love endures forever.

One: We sing praises to the Lord, with all our strength,

All: for God's promises declare God's goodness to all the earth.

One: We place our trust in in God with full confidence,

All: and we come to worship with hearts full of praise.

****Hymn:** O Jesus, Lord of heavenly grace **818**
(tune of Duke Street with closing Hallelujah, #103)

Prayer of Adoration

Eternal God, you are the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, and yet you come to us afresh each new day. You breathe new life into those who are tired or discouraged. You offer healing for what is worn or broken. You restore hope when things seem impossible. You are the source of life and love for all

your creatures, and you renew us to put our love for you into action, for the wellbeing of your creation. And so, we worship you, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit, and offer our prayers and praise to you, eternal and ever-present God, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your purposes. You set a path for us to follow, but we conform to the ways of this world. You give each of us gifts to use for the work of your kingdom, but we wait for others to do what needs doing. Forgive us for taking the easy way out and renew in us the eagerness and energy to serve.

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 us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ

prays for us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace. So let us make a fresh start today! **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1–6

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father

and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

For the Lord will comfort Zion;

he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,

and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;

the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Psalm 138 (*with refrain 1*)

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

**I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name
for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.**

On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.

**All the rulers of the earth shall praise you O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.**

For though the LORD is high, God regards the lowly;
but perceives the haughty from far away.

**Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my
enemies;**

you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers me.

**O LORD, fulfill your purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body, we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of

another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

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

Sermon We Are One Body in Christ

Prayers of the People

****Hymn:** Brother, sister, let me serve you **635**

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:** Your hand, O God, has guided

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Benediction

Postlude *Rondeau*

Jean-J. Mouret

We thank Katie Gratton for singing
the prelude this morning.



St Giles Events

Tuesday, August 25 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Session Meeting in person.

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

Holy Communion

Wednesday, September 09 ~ 12:30 a.m.

St Giles Women's Association in person meeting. Bring your own lunch and bring a friend. **All Women Welcome!**

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

On World Humanitarian Day, we recognize and celebrate the efforts of humanitarian workers who provide life-saving assistance to millions of people affected by conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies. Whatever their faith, they are the living examples of what Jesus asked us to do. We give thanks for PWS&D's partners, who work tirelessly to ensure that essential food aid gets delivered, devastated communities are rebuilt and access to life-saving resources is within reach. Humanitarian workers play a crucial role in ensuring the welfare of vulnerable and marginalized people. Through collaborative efforts, we work together to build a sustainable, compassionate and just world. With daily reports of so many struggling around the world, let us take a moment today to honour these selfless advocates and offer unwavering support for their vital efforts.



(Photo from PCC)



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