

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Christ the Judge, 1447, fresco by Fra Angelico, Orvieto, Italy, from
Art in the Christian Tradition.

September 13, 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

OneLicense.net A-722638 © 2026 All rights reserved

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: Come, Thou Fount arr. Jack Warren Burnam

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Praise the God of life.

All: Let us praise God together.

One: For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is God's steadfast love;

**All: as far as the east is from the west,
so far God removes our sins.**

One: So let us rejoice in God's gracious presence.

All: Let us praise the God of mercy together.

****Hymn:** Morning Has Broken

814

Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

God of might and mercy, the heavens and the earth
are full of your glory. Your love transforms our lives.
You enter our confusion and give insight. You bear

our grief and bring healing. You see our fatigue and renew strength. You sense our fear and spark courage. You know death and raise up new life. So, we come before you in worship, handing over to you all that weigh us down. Renew us a right spirit in this time of worship, so that we may serve you with joy in Jesus' name.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, our lives do not always reflect your transforming power. You are gracious, but we cling to judgment. You are kind, but we can be cruel. You are forgiving, but we nurse grudges and old wounds. Forgive us, O God. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, and make us new through Christ, your Son and our Saviour.

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

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that while we were sinners, Christ died for us. Know that you are forgiven by his grace and be at peace with God, with yourselves and with each other. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So, they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Psalms 103:8–13 (*with refrain 1*)

**The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**The Lord will not always accuse,
nor harbor anger forever.**

The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is the steadfast love shown to those who
revere God;**

**as far as the east is from the west,
so far does God remove our transgressions from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear God.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1–12

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully

convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** Called as partners in Christ's service **587**

Sermon Judge Not

Prayers of the People

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

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 who gives to life its goodness 334

Benediction

Postlude Dialogue Sur Les Grands JeuxFrançois Couperin

St Giles Events

St Giles Women's Association *postponed till further notice.*

Thursday, September 17 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome!

Friday, September 18 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of 2 Samuel,
2-3:5 Defeat of the House of Saul

Joining a 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#.

Mission Related Givings Up to August 31/26

Mission	Received	% of Goal	2026 Goal
Operating Account	\$46,510.10	56%	\$83,000.00
Presbyterian Sharing	3,512.00	29%	\$12,000.00
PWS&D	1,410.00	n/a	n/a
Special Sunday	3,809.00	59%	6,500.00
Presbyterian College	1,000.00	20%	5,000.00

Update: Flooding in Nepal

The scale of the disaster in Nepal continues to grow. The PCC's partner, United Mission to Nepal (UMN), will be working with partners to respond to the disaster in Dhading and Nuwakot.

Since the onset of the flood in Nepal, PWS&D's partner, INF Nepal, has been actively assessing needs and delivering immediate relief support. Initial response activities have focused on displaced families in Nuwakot, particularly in Bidur Municipality.

Bibhu Singh (UMN) asks that people continue to pray for Nepal and expresses gratitude for the PCC's support. "Thank you for continuing to stand with Nepal. We are deeply grateful for your prayers, generosity and partnership as we seek to serve those most in need."

Through your gifts to Presbyterians Sharing, the PCC will be sending USD \$5,000 to support the relief efforts.

Lacing Up for Our Neighbours:

Join us on Sunday, October 4th, 2026, from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM for the annual Centretown Churches Social Action Committee (CCSAC) walkathon. We will gather and begin our walk at Canadian Martyrs Church on Main Street, following a 2 km or 4 km route along the Rideau Canal. This is a wonderful, family-friendly event, so please feel free to bring strollers and leashed dogs! 100% of all funds raised go directly to the Centretown Community Food Centre. To register, volunteer, or make a donation, please visit www.centrtownchurches.org/walkathon—donations can also be made at the walk or mailed to CCSAC at 507 Bank Street, Ottawa, K2P 1Z5.

Glen Soderholm concert for Urban Christian Outreach

Join us at Trinity Presbyterian Church Kanata on September 26, 2026, at 7:00 PM (Eastern Time) for an evening with Glen Soderholm, well known for his acoustic guitar music and heartfelt worship songs. All proceeds will go to support Urban Christian Outreach. The UCO supports the poor by providing transportation and support for medical appointments, navigating government systems, providing clothing, etc.. The outreach is done through a network of volunteers and funded by donations.

Ottawa School of Theology & Spirituality

The OSTS has been part of the Ottawa church and religious community since 1964. We operate only to cover our costs and offer a variety of faith orientated courses online except for two in person courses. Our lecturers are drawn from Ottawa's universities, and clergy of various backgrounds. There are no exams and no homework assignments. For further details see the poster on the side-entrance bulletin board or visit the school's homepage is at

<https://www.osts.ca/>

Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Course & Presentation

Evening online Basic Training program or Monday afternoon in person from September 14 to November 23, 2026.

Supporting Caregivers in Pastoral Care Zoom presentation November 03 from 7p.m. to 9 p.m. led by Joy McLeod-Valle from the Ontario Caregiver Organization.

For more information see the brochures on the side-entrance bulletin board or visit www.ottawapastoralcare.com

Mission Moment

Although today's global food production is sufficient to feed everyone on the planet, hunger continues to rise in too many parts of the world. If current trends continue, around 512 million people may still be chronically undernourished in 2030. This September, join PWS&D's annual Journey for Hope—a fundraiser where PWS&D's supporters gear up and walk, run, ride or do another activity they love to raise money for vital food security work around the world. Thank you for participating and making a difference!



(Photo from PCC)



The Presbyterian Church in Canada