

St Giles Presbyterian Church



Vine-Cultivation, 1220-1240, relief sculpture at Cathédrale d'Amiens, France, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*.

October 04, 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: *When Christ Broke Bread* Carol Muehlig
(based on 'Rockingham')

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: The banqueting table is prepared
and God calls us to the feast.

**All: We have come from east and west,
from north and south, to sit at Christ's table.**

One: Here compassion, love, and grace
pour out like fine wine.

**All: Here we taste the bread of life,
bread for our journey.**

One: There are gifts of God for all the people of God.

All: Let us taste and see that the Lord is good!

****Hymn:** Let us with a gladsome mind

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Children's Story

Prayer of Adoration

Faithful God, as the seasons change, we know you to be ever-steadfast. We see that you are always at work in the world, transforming hearts and minds. You have shown us the true face of love in Jesus Christ, reaching out with healing and hope to touch desperate lives. We praise you for your love that works for reconciliation, among neighbours and nations in this divided world.

As we break bread at this table, the table of the Lord, renew our hope by the gift of your Spirit, so that we can live to praise you as one God, with the whole Church, now and always.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbours in needs, wrapped in our own concerns. We fail to condemn evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, forgive who we have been, amend who we are and direct who we shall be through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. 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 by God's renewing grace. **Amen.**

Scripture

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1–7

I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;

he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;

I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;

he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

Psalms 80:7–15 (*with refrain 2*)

Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine, that we may be saved.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;

you drove out the nations and planted it.

You cleared the ground for it;

it took deep root and filled the land.

The mountains were covered with its shade,

the mighty cedars with its branches;

it sent out its branches to the sea,

and its shoots to the River.

Why then have you broken down its walls,

so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

The boar from the forest ravages it,

and all that move in the field feed on it.

Turn again, O God of hosts;

look down from heaven, and see;

have regard for this vine,

the stock that your right hand planted.

Second Reading: Matthew 21:33–46

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased

it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So, they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? "Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

****Hymn:** We cannot own the sunlit sky **717**

Sermon Parable of the Wicked Tenants

****Hymn:** How clear is our vocation, Lord **649**

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

Offering

Doxology: **830**

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

...

we lift our hearts in joyful praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise you, most holy God,

...

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God,

...

almighty God, for ever and ever.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

****Hymn:** Let us talents and tongues employ **563**

Breaking the Bread / Blessing the Cup

Prayer After Communion

****Hymn:** Now let us from this table rise **556**

Benediction

Postlude *Allegro (Concerto in G)*

J.S. Bach



St Giles Events

Thursday, October 08 ~ 5:30 p.m.

Choir Practice, all are welcome!

Friday, October 09 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study by teleconference. The Book of 2 Samuel,
7 God's Covenant with David

Joining a Meeting, Conference Call or Bible Study

Three to five minutes before the start time, call toll-free
1-888-884-4539. You will be asked to enter the passcode
number 7455703#.

Talk Film, Talk Faith

An opportunity to gather with other members of the
downtown Presbyterian community (Knox, St. Giles, St.
Andrew's). This month, Fjord, an intense drama set in
Norway that explores the clash between a conservative
Christian family and a progressive and secular community
amongst whom they are newcomers. It was awarded the
2026 Cannes Festival and Ecumenical Jury prizes. As this will
be opening night, you might wish to avoid a queue and
purchase a ticket in advance.

<https://www.bytowne.ca/movies/fjord/> Friday October 16, 6
p.m. at the Bytowne Cinema on Rideau Street. Discussion
will follow in the home of Andrew Johnston, a ten minute
walk from the Bytowne. Please RSVP by Wednesday October
14, to Andrew at talkfilmtalkfaith@gmail.com

Walkathon Volunteers

Looking for individuals interested in donating and/or walking with Jean and Stan for the October 4th walkathon as seen below. If so, please call Stan at 613-233-0538

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 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 to the Centretown Community Food Centre. To register, volunteer, or make a donation, please visit

www.centretownchurches.org/walkathon—donations can also be made at the walk or mailed to CCSAC at 507 Bank Street, Ottawa, K2P 1Z5.

Director of Music,

Knox Presbyterian Church, Ottawa – Seeking a part-time Director of Music to enhance and uplift our worship experience and continue to build our music ministry. Knox has a SATB choir with paid section leads, a Casavant pipe organ and a grand piano. We incorporate a variety of styles of music, including contemporary, into our worship while preserving our strength in traditional organ and choral music. The detailed job description can be found at

<https://www.knoxottawa.ca/news/director-of-music-search>

For questions or to apply, please contact

KnoxOttawaDirectorofMusic2026@gmail.com

Mission Moment

We are God's people, called to serve with the unique gifts God has entrusted to each of us. As members of a denomination united by faith, shared governance, history, and mission, we are stronger when we work together. Through Presbyterians Sharing, Presbyterians across Canada join in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and sharing God's love and hope in our communities, across the country and around the world. Gifts to Presbyterians Sharing strengthen congregations, bring hope to vulnerable people, support the PCC's commitment to confession, truth, and reconciliation with Indigenous people, seek justice, and share Christ's love in practical and meaningful ways. Together, we can accomplish far more than any congregation or individual could on their own.



(Photo from PCC)



Presbyterians
Sharing



The Presbyterian Church in Canada