

Upcoming Events

SUN
17

Worship 10:30 am
Pageant

SUN
24

Worship 10:30 am
Christmas Eve 7:00 pm

SUN
31

Worship 10:30 am



Welcome to St. Giles Sarnia
Sunday December 17, 2023
The Reverend Rebecca Roushorne-Lau

*Wherever you are in your journey of faith there is a place for you here at St. Giles.
We are a vibrant gathering of individuals united in our desire to follow Jesus.*

*Following the service you are encouraged to join us in the Gathering Place
for a time of connection and refreshment.*

Order of Worship
St Giles Presbyterian Church, Sarnia
December 17, 2023

Opener: The Wrong Christmas Story

Prelude: Choir - O Little Town of Bethlehem

Welcome and Announcements

Call to worship: Isaiah 12:2-6,

Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust and not be afraid.

**The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defence;
he has become my salvation."**

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

In that day you will say:

**"Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done,
and proclaim that his name is exalted.**

Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things;
let this be known to all the world.

**Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,
for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."**

Candle Lighting

Opening Hymn: Come, Thou Long- Expected Jesus

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Children's Pageant

Video: Light of the World - Joy

Scripture: Luke 1:46b-55

Hymn: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Sermon

Special Music: Hallelujah (Light Has Come)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession *followed by 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 and ever. Amen.

Offertory Invitation

Offertory Music: Choir - Do You Hear What I Hear

Offertory Prayer

Closing Words

Benediction

Closing Hymn: The First Noel vs 1, 2, 4, 6

Insert

Candle Lighting

Voice 1: The prophets call and an apostle writes to announce that joy comes from God.

Voice 2: “The spirit of the Lord God is upon me...and has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives,...to comfort all who mourn; ...to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning...”
(Isaiah 61)
“Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice.”
(Philippians 4)

Voice 1: Grief, pain and loss are inevitable. But woven into life is the joy of living in a universe that reflects God’s beauty. Advent provides time to nurture joy in our lives and in the world God loves. Advent calls us to share with others the good news that comes into the world with the birth of Christ.

Voice 2: Holy are you, Source of all new life among us.
All: **Jesus Christ comes as joy to the world.**

Voice 2: We join with all creation and lift our hearts in joyful praise.

All: **We light this candle to glow for joy.**

As we light our candle, we will sing together:

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift if given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings born of heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

Candle Lighting

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 Office Administrator Nicole Grieve
 Office Hours Tuesday-Friday 8:00am-12:00 pm
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ST GILES ANNOUNCEMENTS: December 17, 2023

Welcome to St. Giles! It is a joy to gather for worship. Our community is committed to helping people grow into hope-filled followers of Jesus.

To connect with us further, you can **text the word "Welcome" to 226-894-1486**, or check out ways to connect on the back of these announcements.

Babies and toddlers are welcome before and during the service in our staffed Nursery downstairs to the left. **Children of all ages** are invited to join our Sunday School that begins after the Children's Time in the service.

PRAYER REQUESTS

George Wilson, Lee Wilson as he recovers at home, **Bobby (son of David Barret), Brittae Carey (daughter of Dana Carey), Anne-Marie**

For those in Long term care:

Bill Blake, Afton Park Place **Wanda James**, Vision Nursing Home
Ruth Leitch, North Lambton Lodge **John Collins**, Meadowview Villa
Bette Fitzpatrick, Twin Lakes Terrace

For the **leadership team at St. Giles.**

For the **gathering of God's people** in this place

Each week this fall, a ministry at St. Giles will be highlighted for prayer. This week we pray for **the Board of Managers** in their work.

Bulletin prayer requests can be emailed to: stgilespresbyterian@cogeco.net (fully written). Private prayer requests are welcomed by Rev. Roushorne or your Elder.

The Pastoral Care Committee in partnership with the Ministry team, works to provide visitation, encouragement, and connection to members of our ministry team. If you would like to join, please contact Rev Becky broushorne@gmail.com.

Role	Today	Dec 24
Greeter	Liz C	Morning: Graham Evening: Joyce
Reader	Rev Becky	Morning: Donna G Evening: Pam W
Sunday School	Leanne, Margo, Emma	Morning: Janice, Heather
Nursery	Mel	Morning: Rainie
Tellers	Dave & Kathy E	Morning: Scott/Liz Evening: Suzanne & John V
Fellowship Hosts	Needed	Morning: Needed

We request that **Bulletin submissions** be received by Wednesday at 10:30am.

Submit your notices to Nicole through stgilespresbyterian@cogeco.net.

GET CONNECTED AT ST GILES

- You can text the church at **226-894-1486** to introduce yourself and/or get involved. Text the word WELCOME for an initial contact, CONNECT to ensure your contact information is correct and VOLUNTEER to consider opportunities available.
- For the **weekly email and quarterly newsletter**, contact stgilesav@gmail.com
- For **Sunday School/Family Ministry emails**, contact lorraine.dolbear@gmail.com
- A **weekly podcast** of the sermon & scripture are on Spotify, TuneIn, and Apple.
- Visit [youtube.com/stgileschurchsarnia](https://www.youtube.com/stgileschurchsarnia) for livestream, or on demand services.

THIS WEEK AT ST. GILES

Monday: Special Olympics Floor Hockey 6:00 pm in the Gym

Tuesday: Beavers 6:15 pm

Wednesday: Reflections on Advent and Christmas 1:00 pm
Scouts 7:00 pm

Sunday: Worship at 10:30 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 24 Celtic Christmas 10:30 am

Christmas Eve 7:00 pm

Dec 31 Worship at 10:30 am

ST. GILES LIBRARY

You are invited to borrow anything you'd like from our library near the front doors. Currently, there are Christmas books featured on our mobile cart. Just pull the borrowers card from your selected book, record your name and leave the card on the cart.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

On Saturday morning, **20 families and individuals in the Sarnia area received a Christmas Hamper** from St. Giles in the form of a Christmas card. Each card contained a \$180 food gift card and a \$50 gift card for each child in the family. Through the generosity of the St. Giles family, we were able to add four additional families to our original 16 as well as increasing the dollar amount we give to each family. Your generosity means so much to these families at a time when food prices continue to rise. Your gifts reflect the true meaning of Christmas.

NIGHTLIGHT SPOTLIGHT

We thank everyone who brought in donations for Nightlight during the months of November. The needs are great in our community and your help and support has created opportunity for volunteers and staff at nightlight to provide for their clients.

Your donations help them provide space where people can be nourished in body and in spirit as they make connections with each other.

SHELTERED BLESSINGS: ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

Please plan to join us at **St. Joseph's RC Church**, for an **Ecumenical Prayer Service at 7pm on January 7th**. This is a result of the joint ministry effort of St. Giles, Grace, Dunlop-Central and the Roman Catholic Family of Parishes to combat Homelessness and Housing Insecurity in Sarnia. Going forward we will work together and with other community groups to continue supporting, assisting and empowering those working with people in need. **The Church is located at 293 Stuart St, in Sarnia.**

CHURCH OFFICE

After Christmas, Nicole will be enjoying a week of holidays. **While the office will be cared for by members of our community to ensure donations are received and accounted for**, the office will not have regular office hours. Office hours will resume on January 2nd at 8am.

THURSDAY COFFEE

We will resume coffee chats in the new year. More information to follow

URGENT APPEAL FROM THE INN OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

With the rising cost of living and food prices skyrocketing, many families are struggling to stretch their food dollars. The Thanksgiving Food Drive, which typically brings in 30,000 pounds, only collected 14,000 pounds this year. This decline in donations means our shelves are emptier than usual. Every donation, no matter how small, helps us provide for families facing hunger.

Items needed are:

Meal Replacement Drinks

Peanut Butter & Jam

Large Cans of Soup

Pasta and Pasta Sauce

Large Juice

Canned Pasta

The Inn thanks everyone for their support. Every donation helps