

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND ANGLICAN CHURCH

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14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(Feast of St. Giles)

August 29, 2021

10:00 a.m. Service

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10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

PROCESSIONAL: *God the Creator*

##445 HB

THE GREETING:

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right, for they shall be satisfied. Matthew 5.6

GLORY TO GOD

Celebrant: Glory to God in the highest,

All: and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

KYRIE: Lord, have mercy.
 Christ, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (Prayer of the Day)

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the heart of your servant, St. Giles, kindled the flame of your love, give us, your humble servants, such faith and power of love, that as we rejoice in his triumph, we may profit by his example; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Song of Solomon 2:8-13

A READING FROM THE SONG OF SOLOMON

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.

My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.

My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM: 45:1-2, 6-9

My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore, God has blessed you forever.

Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity; you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions; your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad; daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

SECOND READING: James 1:17-27

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JAMES

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.

Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.

But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act--they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK

People: Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.

(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)

So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?"

He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.

All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

SERMON: Doug Court

The Feast of St. Giles

This Morning's Reading from James

"Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls". WOW! What a great introduction for a sermon. Those are the words of James from our reading this morning.

James' fiery temper and bold approach to people, earned he and his brother, John, the title, "Sons of Thunder". James goes on to say, "But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers". He continues, (those) "being not hearers who forget but doers who act – they will be blessed in their doing".

James' reputation contrasts greatly to Giles, who was quiet, humble and unobtrusive. Yet both are saints. What is a saint, and why do we name our church buildings after saints? Briefly put, they were/are ordinary people who dedicated their lives to serving God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, as made known to them through His son Jesus. Saints made an impact on the world through service to all people. From the early apostles to Mother Theresa, they came from all walks of life to serve as an example and as teachers for us. St. James says that true religion or faith is, (quote), "to keep oneself unstained by the world". In this instance the "world" represents everything that conflicts with the "Kingdom of God" as taught by the prophets, apostles and Jesus himself in scriptures. When we study the saints, we see how each fulfilled their calling in their own ways and were, as James says, "doers of the word and not merely hearers".

This morning we celebrate the Feast of St. Giles. He is one of the saints whose name has become a part of our parish. St. Margaret, after whom this building has been dedicated, also, by her life brings us another example of faith – which we will learn about in November.

St. Giles Life

There are several saints with the name Giles, but the most common and the only one with a special day set aside in the Church's calendar, is the one to whom we had dedicated a church building in the east end

of Barrie. It is also the name that will take its place in Barrie's history when we dedicate St. Giles' Ministry Centre in the future. In doing research I actually found a fair amount of information, some of it contradictory so I have tried to sort out truth from legend, and myth. This is what most of the reliable sources agreed upon.

Giles was likely born in 650 A.D. and lived until 710 A.D. and died peacefully at the age of 60 years. He was born into a high-ranking aristocratic family in Athens, Greece, (some records say that he was the son of a king, but this is just legend to emphasize the difference between the lifestyle he was born into compared to the lifestyle he chose). Early in life Giles' study focused on the scriptures and sacred writings. He gained a reputation of being pious, and humble which was in contrast to his station in life. Most of his wealth was given away to feed the poor and provide shelter and healing to the ignored of society. Over time, Giles, for his piety and understanding of God, drew much attention to himself and his life became overwhelmed with visitors, and even crowds wanting to hear his words and teaching. He became known for his posers of healing. Overwhelmed by the attention and pressure, and finding little time for himself, Giles sought to be left alone to meditate on God's word. To do this he 'escaped' to the south of France where he eventually settled on the outskirts of a city near the mouth of the Rhone River. There he chose the life of a hermit alone, communing with God. Eventually though, word of a Holy Man living in the forest spread and villagers would come seeking teaching, prayers and healing.

The Story of the Deer

During a hunting party led by the local 'king', the pursuit of a deer led to another phase in Giles' life. The story goes that a deer, being chased by hunters went through a thicket partially covering the entrance to a cave where Giles was. The hunters fired their arrows into the cave, not aware of Giles' presence. An arrow pierced Giles' hand saving the deer but taking the main force of the arrow. The hunters entered to find Giles' wounded. The king realized who Giles was by reputation. Whether it was due to the fear of God, or compassion, whatever the reason, the repentant nobleman offered to build Giles a monastery to carry out his work. Giles at first refused but settled for a humble dwelling where five disciples at a time could be trained to carry out God's work.

During the rest of his life, Giles trained, what today would be called Missionaries, but who were to be "doers of the word". Giles' fame grew during his lifetime and even more for centuries following, as those who spread out from the abbey and travelled throughout Europe and Britain acted and spoke on his behalf. His disciples and those who followed carried God's message by their actions. They set up shelters for the poor and beggars, they developed 'hospitals' for the cripples and tended to the needs of lepers.

I was in Shrewsbury near the English Welsh border some years ago and picked up a book by Ellis Peters about a monk detective living around 1150. The Cadfael Mysteries, later a TV series in the 1990's, took place in the abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul, later rededicated to St. Giles. The book, although fiction, spoke of the leper colony near the abbey, and the hospital attached to it – St. Giles' hospital and church. The St. Giles' Hospital where the monks from the abbey tended to the lepers and those with mental health needs, was in fact historically correct. The hospital remained active from approx. 1136 – 1546. Today the 12th century Church of St. Giles' is still there, an active parish church proud of its history.

St. Giles Remembered

The impact this quiet, unassuming man made has been felt down through the centuries. During the Middle Ages, the shrine of St. Giles was a major pilgrimage site. A pilgrimage route then and now called St. James' Way, (actually, there are several routes) through France, Spain, and Portugal has a stop at the site of the original monastery of St. Giles'. Today, in England there are approx. 160 churches dedicated to the Giles. There are other churches and cathedrals dedicated to him in Britain and Europe.

Recently, around 2012, St. Giles was the topic of presentations at an interfaith conference on climate change and at the International Congress of Medieval Studies. Giles was being referred to as an example of an early environmentalist.

The Saints and Us

So, what does Giles' life or the lives of the saints have to do with us?

On Remembrance Day we usually say the poem, "In Flanders Field". By sending out 'disciples', as did Christ, as did Giles, and so many saints, the line in the poem, "To you we pass the torch" would so much be what the Saints of old are saying to us today. Saints have been referred to as "Soldiers of Christ", or as 'ordinary people who did extraordinary things'. If we follow scripture demands to bring all people to Christ, then we have to remember, that it is our actions that are more important than words, according to James.

The good thing is that we have the examples in the Saints to remind us that, empowered with the Holy Spirit, we are all capable of performing great deeds if we choose to. Giles' life is an example and reminder to us that a humble and unassuming manner showing God's love to others can have a great impact on individuals and society.

Giles died as he lived, peacefully and uneventfully of natural causes at the age of 60 years.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, grant us the strength, the courage, and the love to strive to serve you in our day, as did Giles and all your saints in any age. In Jesus name,

People: Amen

(Time allowed for Silent Reflection.)

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (#2)

(Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, "Lord hear our prayer.")

Officiant: O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Cleanse our hearts of prejudice and selfishness and inspire us to hunger and thirst for what is right.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share the good things you provide.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or in mind.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Set free all who are bound by fear and despair.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

(Silence is kept.)

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Hymn for St. Giles*

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Celebrant: God of love and justice, you make known your ways in the lives of your saints. Receive all we offer you this day, and help us to know your holy will and do it; through Jesus Christ the Lord.

People: Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 3

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; you are the source of light and life for all your creation, you made us in your own image, and call us to new life in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

All: 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.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, Holy Eucharist 199 a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: **we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. 200 Holy Eucharist In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF BREAD #2

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: **We, being many, are one body, for well all share in the one bread.**

LAMB OF GOD:

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS:

*Seek Ye First
Glorify Thy Name*

#458 HB
#19 SB

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All: God of glory, this table is a foretaste of the kingdom of your Son. May we be faithful to him in this life and rejoice with your servant Giles for ever; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY

All: Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING:

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

People: Amen.

REMINDERS: Birthdays/Anniversaries/Announcements

RECESSIONAL: Joyful, Joyful

#425 HB

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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Assisting Father Simon today:

Celebrant:	The Rev. Simon Bell
Preacher:	Doug Court
Bread:	Fr. Simon
First Reading:	Peter Beckett
Second Reading:	Kevin Hamann
Prayers:	Margaret Paradis
Gospel:	Amy Pauley
Server:	Amy Pauley
Audio/Visual:	David Paradis
Music:	Craig Snider
Chancel Ministry:	Michelle Sinclair, Margaret Paradis
Sidespersons:	John Snow, Bill Goodyer

This morning in our worship we remember in our prayers those of our family and friends who have immediate needs and concerns:

Stephen and Martin Bertelsen; Alvin Maynard; Kathy H.; Sylvia Ralston; Amanda Rose; Mark Ralston; Darlene Jessem; Jim Tomkins; Ray Wilson; Judy Virtanen; Lawrence Bornais; Roxanne Reid & Family & The Goodyer Family; Garn Mennell; Lorraine Whitwell; Doreen; Alan Proudlove; Anthony Sacco; Sally Rees & her mom; Michelle Sinclair, Mom and Family; Livia & Neil Purcell; Adesh; Lee & Jeannie Martin; Sheri Scott; Audrey Moody; Wally Raymond; Christine; Kim; Carl; Mark & Erin; Wendy; Brenda Jessem; Shirley; Lynda Raye; Kilravey; Rhonda; Brenda & Brian; Derek; Jaxon Croft; Sean; Amanda Stewart; Kathryn

The names below are people in need of ongoing prayers for various reasons so we ask you to please continue to pray for them and their continuing need of God's healing touch and grace:

Jane & Ron Lewis; Theresa & Pete; Cecilia Mowat; Tanya Bowskill; Sophia L; Jane Tutty; Jean Glionna; Dorothy & Chuck; Kevin Hamann; Laura Johnston; Marilyn Foley; Kadeem Broomes; Diane M.; Bill Snow; Deborah Hall; Owen; Jen Galicinski; Arlene; Joan Gough; Lorraine W; Stephanie; Fr. Murray; Marg Abbott; Jordan; Margie Mills; Eunice Merrett; Jean Wallace; Nancy Dodds; Bill & Cathy Gray; Wendy Goodyer; Donna Wilson; Gordon Kennedy; Paul & Rose McIntyre; Do Saunders; Jefferson Jr.; June Osolin; Tanya Wade-Vargas.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

Diocese of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

In the Toronto Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

Tecumseth Deanery