

LUKE : JESUS FOR PAGANS & SKEPTICS
JESUS AND HYPOCRISY

First Reading
Galatians 6:11-18

The Gospel
Luke 12:1-12

*Free Bibles available on
stage near Besserer door.

Questions and/or comments about the sermon or scripture text? Email george@messiahchurch.ca.

UPCOMING EVENTS + ANNOUNCEMENTS

MON / SEP 29 Women's Home Group

7:00pm @ 205 Bolton St.

TUES / SEP 30 Messiah Prayer Meeting

7:00pm @ Messiah Office / 315 Lisgar St.

The House (Home Group)

7:00pm @ 148 Augusta St.

Lowertown Home Group

7:00pm @ 110 Nelson St.

Marriage Alpha Course

6:45pm @ 315 Lisgar St.

WED / OCT 1 Church on Wednesday

7:00pm @ uOttawa, Agora

Jericho Road Coffeehouse

7:00pm @ St. Paul's Eastern United / 473 Cumberland St.

Get involved by donating and/or preparing sandwiches or serving on Wednesday evening. Email info@messiahchurch.ca to learn more!

THUR / OCT 2 Old Ottawa South Home Group

7:15pm @ 267 Sunnyside Ave.

FRI / OCT 3 Revive Youth

7:00pm @ Sainte Anne's School / 340 York St.



Making disciples gripped by the gospel, living for God's glory.

September 28, 2014

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

messiahchurch.ca / 613.235.0596 / info@messiahchurch.ca
office & mailing address: 315 Lisgar St. Ottawa ON K2P 0E1

We are a prayerful, Bible-teaching, evangelical church in the heart of the city with a heart for the city and the world. We are a member of the Anglican Network in Canada and part of the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans. We seek to be a biblically faithful and orthodox church within the Anglican Way of following Jesus.

Are you new? Get connected!

Are you interested in learning more about Messiah and getting connected? Email info@messiahchurch.ca or call **613.235.0596**. Also check out our website at messiahchurch.ca.

Nursery & Sunday School

Nursery (0 - 24 months) and Sunday School (2 yrs - Grade 6) are available at the 10am Service. For Nursery, please bring children to the lobby before or during the service. For Sunday School, kids are invited to "follow the cross" during the third worship song.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Canon George Sinclair
Rector

Amy van Hemmen
Administrative Manager

Jeremy Giles
Ministry Intern

Daniel Gilman
Ministry Intern

Wardens
Dick Butler
Gary Graber
John Rayson
Shannon Ripley
Karl Ruban
Dana Scherf

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Giving

If you are visiting, please feel free to let the plate go by.
If you would like to donate, there are two ways to give:

- 1) Place cash or cheques payable to "Church of the Messiah" in the offering plate on Sunday, or mail to the church office.
- 2) Visit messiahchurch.ca/give to donate online via CanadaHelps.

Financial Update / January - August 2014

Actual Offering: \$179,051
Target Offering: \$210,833

Dear all,

It seems as if evangelical churches have stopped praying. That seems a bit extreme, so let me explain.

I am obviously here at Messiah most Sunday mornings, so I have limited experience of what other churches are doing when they gather for worship. However, when I am on holidays, I go to other churches. Often I've noticed there is virtually no congregational prayer time. The service is made up of a combination of congregational singing, sermon, offering and announcements. On occasion, there is a "performance piece" (where the congregation listens while someone sings) or a baptism or an infant dedication. One church we attended over the last few summers invited people to break up into small groups to pray. What was missing in every church was some form of congregational or public or common prayer - a time where the congregation prays as one (or at least attempts to pray as one).

Both Old and New Testaments are filled with examples of common/ congregational prayer. The New Testament Epistles provide guidelines and instructions on common prayer (e.g. 1 Timothy 2). I think the Bible teaches that common prayer is important. It should not be dropped because it is a bit "flat" and we want to make the church worship time more meaningful and/or dynamic and/or relevant.

A good case can be made that good modern praise songs are prayers. In other words, the modern worship service has more prayer than in "traditional" services because there is more worshipful, prayerful singing. There is something to this. There is no question that the Psalms are prayers and they are often meant to be sung. So, the prayerful singing of good modern praise songs is a type of common prayer. However, praise songs are very limited in the themes they address. Part of this is the inherent limit of the musical form.

Our private prayers are typically very personal. If we are honest, we have seasons in our life where we tend to focus on our needs and our sins and the needs of our family and friends. Common prayer should not be like this. Common prayer should be big. It should guide us into areas of prayer that we do not privately pray for. Hopefully, common prayer teaches and is formative. We pray for missionaries, evangelists, other churches, government, war and poverty and plague, our church, evangelism, the sick, those in distress and need.

So common prayer should not be a piece of performance art where we merely listen to the prayers of one person. Mindful of the church's mission, we pray in common. We pray for things the Bible tells us to pray for, even if praying for these things do not naturally come to us. Please pray! Please pray that we will be a prayerful people in private, in small groups, in public worship.

George +