

Fall Semester 2019

New Testament II: Pauline Epistles
Old Testament II: Historical Books
Preaching I
Spiritual Formation I
Modern Church History

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Gifts Inventory 2019

By completing this survey, you will help us maintain an inventory of the gifts people at Messiah have and are willing to share. Putting your name on a list does not commit you to any particular task.

The link to the survey was in your emailed announcements! Thanks for taking the time to complete this survey!

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Ministry Intern | Matt Usherwood

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WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

Sunday, July 14th, 2019

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



THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Rev. Canon George Sinclair - Rector



@messiah_church



Church of the Messiah, Ottawa



messiahchurch.ca



Today's service:
bible.com/events/652600



Messiah Church Ottawa Sermons



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GROWING IN GRACE

I need to develop godly attitudes.

- A) Pray for godly attitudes in general & certain attitudes in particular.
- B) Ask others to pray the same thing for you.
- C) Repeat the attitude to help it sink in. Do this in conjunction with A & B!

Attitudes.

- 1. It is wise to fall on your knees before the Lord and ask for mercy and grace.
- 2. Lord, please grow in me a great faith in You.
- 3. Lord, please grow me into a person who prays persistently for others

I need to grow in prayer.

A great way to do this is to learn to pray the Bible. Pray this prayer until you can pray without reading:

Merciful Lord, I do not presume to come to You trusting in my own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies. I am not worthy to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Please make me a disciple of Jesus, gripped by the Gospel and filled by the Holy Spirit, who lives a prayerful life for the good of others, the furthering of Your Kingdom, and for Your great glory and praise. In Jesus' Name Amen.

I need to get God's word in my mind and heart.

"But I want you to be wise in what is good and innocent in what is evil. The God of peace will quickly crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you."

Romans 16:19b-20 (NET)

I need to do something or start to do something.

Complete the following sentence: "In light of God's word, the Holy Spirit is leading me to _____."

The Prayer of Humble Access and the Lord's Supper

Dear friends,

There is an old prayer that Anglicans have been praying since the mid-1500's. We pray a modified version of it at the 10AM service. We pray the original 1552 version at the 8AM service. It has been a much hated prayer by many in the Anglican Church for the last forty years, but it is a wise, deep, and biblical prayer that we can both pray and learn from. The prayer is called The Prayer of Humble Access.

The prayer is primarily based on two stories in Matthew. In both cases the Lord praises the person's great and remarkable faith. The first story is from Matthew 8:5-13. It is the story of a pagan centurion from Rome, who asks Jesus to heal his servant. When Jesus says he will come to heal the servant, the centurion says, "Lord I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word and my servant will be healed." Jesus later says that, "... with no one in Israel have I found such faith." The second story which forms the prayer of Humble Access is our sermon text for today. It is the story of the Canaanite woman who asks Jesus to heal her demon possessed daughter. It is found in Matthew 15:21-28. As part of their conversation the woman says to Jesus, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters table." Jesus responds, "O woman, great is your faith." For more on these words, listen to my sermon on the text.

One more thing before I share the prayer. You need to appreciate where it is in the Communion service, and that it is part of the Communion service. This part of the service is influenced by the structure of Isaiah 6:1-7. In Isaiah 6, we move from seeing the glory of the Lord and the high praises of the seraphim, to an acknowledgement of our sin, to the Lord's provision for our sin. So it is in the 1552 Communion service as it moves towards Holy Communion. There is a time of praise culminating with all the congregation saying, "therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name; evermore praising You and saying: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of Your glory: Glory be to You, O Lord most high. Amen." Immediately after this is the Prayer of Humble Access. Then we speak the biblical theology and the words of institution for the Lord's Supper, then we receive Holy Communion. As you now read the Prayer of Humble Access, you will see how Isaiah 6:1-7 is formative.

"We do not presume to come to this Your Table, O Merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in Your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your table. But You are the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of Your Son Jesus Christ, and to drink His blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by His body, and our souls washed through His most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen."

Note, the rest of the service makes clear that we feed on Him by faith, in our heart. The prayer preserves the biblical "physical" language while the service as a whole preserves the notion of Christ's once-for-all sacrifice which we receive by faith alone. The prayer emphasizes that we are all fallen in body and in soul, and we are made right with God, body and soul, by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Paraphrasing the prayer book, the body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten only in a heavenly and spiritual manner. The means whereby the body and blood of Christ is received and eaten in the Lord's Supper is by faith.

George+