

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

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!

Is this your first visit to Church of the Messiah? Thank you for being with us. We are glad you're here. Interested in learning more about Messiah and getting connected? Contact us: info@messiahchurch.ca or 613.235.0596. Check out the Welcome Centre in the lobby or 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 Green Room (basement) before or during the service. For Sunday School, kids are invited to follow the cross after the last worship song.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Canon George Sinclair
Rector

Jonathan Camiré
Ministry Intern - Evangelism and
Discipleship

Yasmine Alli-Smith
Ministry Intern

Deborah Reid **Shirley Allan**
Worship Leader Administrator

Daniel Gilman
Pastor of Evangelism and Discipleship
(Children, Youth and Young Adults)

Rev. Neil Stephens
Pastor of Discipleship and Pastoral Care

Wardens:
Dick Butler Jeremiah Hadwen
Earl Maynard Shannon Ripley
Karl Ruban Dana Scherf

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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

- 1) Place cash or cheques payable to "Church of the Messiah" in the offering basket on Sunday, or mail to the church office. Please contact the office if you are interested in using offering envelopes.
- 2) Email your contribution to givings@messiahchurch.ca Please use the security question: "What is the pastor's first name?" and the answer: "George"
- 3) You can use PayPal to donate to the church. Click on the "Contact" tab (far right side) on our website (messiahchurch.ca)
- 4) Pre-authorized debit – You can authorize the church to debit your bank account for a fixed amount on a recurring basis of your choice. To get started, please contact the office: info@messiahchurch.ca

THE SHRINKING OF MORAL THINKING

Dear Friends,

"What do you think of ISIL blowing up bombs in the two Egyptian Coptic churches on Palm Sunday?" One of my non-Christian friends asked me this earlier in the week. I said, "It was evil." He thought it was horrible but he was uncomfortable with the word, "evil". In fact, he told me this. He said, "ISIL are animals." He is uncomfortable with the word, "evil" and what it entails. He prefers the word, "animals", without thinking about what it entails. I suggested to him that his moral categories were shrinking and unable to grasp what was happening.

I recently watched a largely forgettable 12-episode series around a series of murders. In the final episode, the police have compelled a minor accomplice to "wear a wire" - a device that will allow the police to listen to, and record, the conversation between the informant and the murderer. As the two talk, the murderer does, in fact, confess to the murders and explains how he fooled the police. One of the people he murdered was a girlfriend carrying his child. The informant is horrified at the calm way the murderer explains his calculated actions. He cries out, "You are insane!" The murderer denies being insane. Instead, he says he is more highly evolved and that it is of the nature of evolution that the strong kill the weak to thrive.

Notice, the informant does not call the murderer "evil", he calls him "insane". Like my friend, there is a shrinking of moral categories. It is a different type of shrinking to believe "evil is insanity" as opposed to "evil is animalistic." But both impair and shrink our ability to think morally. As an aside, maybe a topic for a series of blogs. To lose the category of moral evil and replace it with categories of "insanity" or "animalistic" is to dehumanize people in a dangerous way.

The Bible contains an outline of moral sanity. It balances the integrity and dignity of human beings with the reality of evil that we often do. It understands the evil of some "systems" and philosophies; of some social structures; and of individuals. It has insight into the reality of demons and the evil they inspire and do, as well as "mere" human evil. God is good, always and unshakably good. God is perfectly good and just and merciful and loving - and these "virtues" are at peace in Him, never in conflict. No human being is perfect and all of us are better at seeing specks in another person's eyes, than seeing logs in our own.

It was into such a world that Jesus came to die and to rise.

Evil does its worse - killing God. But God, in justice and mercy, uses this act to redeem all who put their trust in Jesus. Justice without compromise. Mercy without limit. The only hope for human beings; the moral order clarified; real redemption. This is why we want to be disciples of Jesus gripped by the Gospel living for God's glory.

George+

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) I need God's help to distinguish the whispers of the serpent from the word of God.
- 2) It is always wise to learn what the Bible says.
- 3) Flee all spiritual promises and powers that do not exalt the Lord Jesus Christ.

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:

Lord Jesus Christ, in my place condemned You stood. Thank You that you came to live and die to be my substitute - and the substitute of all who put their faith in You. Thank You that it was my offenses and penalties that were listed above Your head on the cross and that Your death was in my place. Please grow my faith in You and what You did for me on the cross. Make me your disciple, gripped by this good news, living day-by-day for Your glory. Amen!!

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

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
Colossians 2: 6-7

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 _____."

Monday, April 17

The church office is closed.

Tuesday, April 18

- 7pm: Lowertown Home Group @ 110 Nelson

Wednesday, April 19

- 7:30pm: Hintonburg Home Group @ 84 Fairmont

Thursday, April 20

- 7pm Old Ottawa South Home Group @ 267 Sunnyside Ave.

Friday, April 21

- 7pm Adventure613 Youth Group @ Ecole Ste Anne (235 Beausoleil)

THE EASTER FLOWERS ARE IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Vera & Gerald Allen

Leslie Barnes

Teresa Bourque

Joy Brisely

Ethel Brunet

Margery & Robert Dean

Marcello, Agatha & Laura Egidi

Johnny Giard

Alice Hall

The Very Rev. & Mrs WE Harrison

Anne Elizabeth Hibbert

Ken, Betty & Keith Jakeman

Esther Landry

Bruce Lang

Eileen Lemon

Lawrence McPhail

Ned Meredith

Patti McHugh

Margaret & Robert McCook

Bess Reid

Walter Ruban

Kalysta Storie-Grezaud

Dorothy & Ray Skrypnyk

Marion Smiley

Elly Yntema-Vonk

Ada Yntema-van der Horst