TRUE TRUTHS: HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN

First Reading: Acts 1: 1-11

*Free Bibles available on stage near Besserer door.

Gospel Reading: John 15: 26- 16:4

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

May 8, 2016

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Follow us on twitter: @messiah_church Like us on Facebook: Church of the Messiah, Ottawa

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

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 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 last worship song.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

| Rev. Canon George Sinclair Rector | Daniel Gilman Pastor of Evangelism and Discipleship |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Shirley Allan | Wardens: Dick Butler, |
| Administrator | Gary Graber |
| | John Rayson |
| Jonathan Camiré | Shannon Ripley |
| Ministry Intern | 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 "Give" 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

FINANCIAL UPDATE AT APRIL 30, 2016 Target Offering: \$ 99,150 Actual Offering: \$ 90,990

ANCIENT RESOURCES FOR THINKING ABOUT THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

Dear friends,

Below are a few nuggets of wisdom on the ascension of Jesus. They are all from official Anglican writings from the 1500's.

The 39 Articles were begun mid-century and completed in the 1570's. They have been the central statement of the Anglican faith ever since. Church of the Messiah is a member of the Anglican Network in Canada (ANiC). The 39 Articles, along with the 1662 Book of Common Prayer and the Ordinal are the official statement of faith of ANiC. We are also part of the GAFCON movement, so the 2008 Jerusalem Declaration is also considered to be a brief, contemporary statement of faithful, biblical, orthodox Anglicanism.

Here is Article 4 of the 39 Articles. "Christ did truly rise again from death, and took again His body, with flesh, bones and all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature; wherewith He ascended into heaven, and there sits, until He returns to judge all men at the last day."

Here is the "The Preface" for Ascension Day. This is a prayer added to the communion service. So it communicates doctrine in the form of prayer. "Through Your most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord; Who after His glorious resurrection manifestly appeared to all His Apostles, and in their sight ascended up into heaven to prepare a place for us, that where He is, we might also ascend, and reign with Him in glory..."

Here is the Collect for Ascension Day. Once again, it is a doctrinally informed prayer to pray. "Grant we beseech You, Almighty God, that like as we do believe Your only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to have ascended into the heavens, so we may also in heart and mind ascend, and with Him continually dwell. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Finally, in the words of the 4th century Nicene Creed. "And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end."

Please note, the image of the Lord "sitting" in heaven is not an image or Him resting or waiting. It is an image of triumph. His victory is accomplished. It is complete. He is Lord. He is the Lord. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, high above all.

George +

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) Jesus is Lord of history and Lord of humanity and Lord of me.
- 2) Jesus will come again and bring the end of all things.
- 3) All of me, body and soul, will one day be face-to-face with Jesus.

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:

Dear Lord, I praise You for Your mighty resurrection and ascension. Please help me to live today knowing that You are big and that all things are small compared to You. Please help me to remember that You are sovereign, and that You love me, and that you will never let me go. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1: 8

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 _____

GOING DEEPER

Getting to know me.

Was gym or phys. ed. one of your favourite subjects in school? When did you stop taking gym?

Getting into the Bible.

Ask the Lord to help you stop being conformed to this age and to grant the renewing of your mind and life.

1) Read Acts 1: 1-11 2) Read Luke 1: 1-4 3) Read John 11: 1-27; Hebrews 9:11 - 10:14

Getting real.

How has the Bible impacted you? Can you share some of this with others so they can pray for you?

UPCOMING EVENTS + ANNOUNCEMENTS

| MON / MAY 9 | Prayer Meeting 7pm @ 315 Lisgar St |
|---------------|--|
| TUE / MAY 10 | Lowertown Home Group 7pm @ 110 Nelson St. |
| WED / MAY 11 | Hintonburg Home Group 7:30pm @ 84 Fairmont Ave. |
| THUR / MAY 12 | King Edward Home Group 7:30pm @ 703A King Edward Ave. |
| FRI / MAY 13 | Revive Youth Group 7pm @ École Ste Anne |

Refugee Response. We want to assess your interest in helping Messiah-organized refugee support activities. Please complete the yellow survey card and place it in the offering basket or in the basket at the coffee station.

Will you serve? Are you interested in serving Church of the Messiah on Sunday morning? There are opportunities to serve in a technical capacity (sound board / slides etc) or as an offering counter. Training is provided. Interested? info@messiahchurch.ca

Please note: Our regular 10am worship service on May 22 will be held at 9am. The 8am service will begin at 7:45am that day.

Messiah Women. Save the date! Please join us for an afternoon tea party on Saturday, May 28 from 1:30 to 3:30pm at The Bible House (315 Lisgar St). Sign up at the coffee bar.

Learner's Exchange continues! Come out at 9:15am Sundays to hear a 30-minute TED-style talk followed by a 10-minute Q&A. Light refreshments will be available. Upcoming talks:

- May 8: Anglicanism 101 (Gary Graber)
- **CHANGE**** May 15: The flaws and failure of moral relativism (Jonathan Camiré)

ARDFC (Anglican Relief and Development Fund Canada) is launching an urgent appeal for prayer (most importantly!) and financial donations to help those fleeing from the **wildfires in Fort McMurray.** Many have lost everything. You can donate at: ardfc.ca/donate.htm (Be sure to note that it is for Fort McMurray Fire Relief)