

THE CHRISTMAS STORY FOR: HISTORY LOVERS

First Reading: Luke 2: 1-7 *Free Bibles available on stage near Besserer door.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11: 2-10

Lined area for notes.



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

December 13, 2015

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

Follow us on twitter: @messiah_church
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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!

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 last worship song.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Canon George Sinclair Rector	Daniel Gilman Pastor of Evangelism and Discipleship
Shirley Allan Administrator	Joey McNitt Worship Leader
Jonathan Camiré 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 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) **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

Funds needed to balance the books at December 31, 2015: \$44,000
Funds given in December 2014: \$43,400

HOSPITALITY AND CARS

Dear friends,

Since many people come to Messiah by car, it is important to think and pray about how we can show hospitality to cars (and the people who arrive in them). Here are some thoughts. Please feel free to share your best wisdom with me on this topic!

Firstly, street parking is always at a premium. With all of the condos near the Ottawa Little Theatre (OLT), there are always people looking for on-street parking. Soon we will have snow, and that often leads to less on-street parking. One big way that we show hospitality is to not take the best on-street parking spots, but leave them for guests or for those who come to Messiah and have mobility issues. It is really easy to drive to Messiah and excitedly grab a great parking spot; but, for the sake of showing hospitality, it would be better to drive past that spot and take a more inconvenient spot so that a guest can grab the great spot.

Secondly, consider using the parking garage. This is a "win-win" solution to showing hospitality and finding good parking. Please see our web page messiahchurch.ca for more details, but the parking garage is right beside the OLT (on the north side). The parking garage has above and below ground level parking. The entrance to the upper parking spots is on the left side and often the blue garage door is closed. If you approach the door slowly, it will open automatically for you. You can walk up/down the ramp, or take the stairs or an elevator to get to and from your parking spot. Not only is the parking garage a short walk, but the sidewalk on King Edward Ave. is one of the first sidewalks to be cleaned after a snowfall, so it is very quick and easy to get from your car to the OLT.

One of the great reasons for using the parking garage yourself is that it makes it easier for you to describe to guests where to park. We know that getting to the entrance of the parking garage can be a bit confusing at first. But once you have parked there a couple of times, it is very easy and very convenient.

I recommend pulling into the parking lot behind the OLT to drop people off (and/or pick up the parking pass you need to display on your dash so you can park for free), then you can easily drive through that parking lot to Rideau St, turn right on King Edward Ave and proceed with great ease to the parking garage.

Finally, if you are able-bodied, consider coming early on snow days to do a bit of shoveling to make it easier for people to get into the OLT. This is one of those small but important acts of hospitality that people take for granted (meaning - you don't get thanked!) but it is really important to help people get into the worship service safely and early.

Please pray that Messiah will be a church that shows great hospitality to all who come to join us in worship.

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) As a follower of Jesus, all truth is God's truth.
- 2) As a follower of Jesus, the truth is always my friend.
- 3) The truth is necessary food for my mind, heart and will.

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, You are the true and living God who has created all things, sustains all things, and will bring all things to the right end. You are the true, the good and the beautiful. Thank You for truly speaking and acting in history to redeem all who trust in Jesus, Your Son and my Saviour. Please grow in me the courage to follow Jesus and to seek the truth. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

...it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught. Luke 1: 3-4

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.

What is one true thing about you or your past that would surprise people?

Getting into the Bible.

Remember to pray that the Lord will lead and guide you into all truth.

- 1) Read Luke 1: 1-4 and Luke 2: 1-7
- 2) Read John 1: 14-17; 4: 23-24; 8: 32-33 and 39-46; 14:6; 16:13; 17:8 and 17-19; 18:37-38; 19:35; 20:30-31; 21: 24-25.

Getting real.

Has the Lord spoken to you as you have read His Word? Has He convicted you on some matters? Can you share some of this with others so they can pray for you?

UPCOMING EVENTS + ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUE / DEC 15 **Lowertown Home Group**
7pm @ Coyote Rock Gym

WED / DEC 16 **Caroling at uOttawa**
5:30pm @uOttawa Agora
Church on Wednesday
7pm @ uOttawa UCU
Hintonburg Home Group
7:30pm @ 84 Fairmont Ave.

THU / DEC 17 **Moms and Tots Drop-in**
10am-noon@ 119 Rochester St.
King Edward Home Group
7:30pm @ 703A King Edward Ave.

FRI / DEC 18 **Messiah Men's Gathering**
8pm @ 584 Tweedsmuir Ave.

Caroling at uOttawa: Please join Brian Crook for caroling on the uOttawa campus. Wednesday, December 16 @5:30pm. Meet at the Agora. See Brian after the service if you are interested.

Interested in having an international student join you for your Christmas Day meal? Please speak to Brian Crook and he will connect you with a student.

St Joe's Christmas Bin: We invite you to bring new or gently used clothing and non-perishable food items to donate to St Joe's Supper Table. A collection bin will be available at the Besserer door entrance from December 13 - 27.

Christmas Remembrance: If you would like the name of loved ones who have passed away added to our Christmas Remembrance List, please contact the office TODAY. info@messiahchurch.ca

2016 offering envelopes are available. If you'd like a set of envelopes, please contact the office. info@messiahchurch.ca

Are you able to help as a door host or offering collector on Dec24 or 25? Please contact the office!

Christmas Services @ Messiah:

TODAY: Christmas pageant, *Breath of Heaven* @ 10am worship
Sunday, December 20: Arise Ballet @ 10am worship
Thursday, December 24: Quiet/traditional worship @ 2pm
Thursday, December 24: Family-friendly worship @ 7pm
Friday, December 25: Family-friendly worship @ 10am
Sunday, December 27: Worship @ 8am & 10am
Friday, January 1: Prayer and Holy Communion @ 10am (@ The Bible House - 315 Lisgar St.)

The church office will be closed from December 21 until January 1; reopening on Monday, January 4. Voicemail will be checked daily.