

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

On Baptism: Part 3

Dear Friends,

How is it that some "Bible-believing" Christians believe the Bible allows the baptism of infants? This is my third blog on this question. Today I will focus on the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist.

The very first Bible study I ever led in an Anglican church was on the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. I confess that I was nervous. Up until then most Bible studies I had led were with people around the same age as me. This Bible study took place at 9:15am, before the main service at 10:30am. I knew that it often drew over 20 people and most of the people were considerably older than me. So, I probably over-worried and over-prepared. I prayed a lot but I definitely did not "over-pray".

I began the Bible study and about 10 minutes in I paused and asked for questions and/or comments. A woman in her 50's said, "I have been an Anglican all my life, but this passage shows that Anglicans are wrong on baptism. We should follow the example of Jesus and be baptized as an adult. We should not baptize babies." Others quickly chimed in, in agreement. The rest of the Bible study was taken over by this discussion. I must confess that in all of my preparations for the Bible study I had spent absolutely no time thinking about infant vs adult baptism, so I felt very unprepared for the actual discussion. The whole situation was ironic. I was the only person in a room of over 20 people who had been baptized as an adult. Everyone else had been baptized as a baby. I was the only person arguing for the validity of infant baptism in a room full of people who were baptized as infants, now arguing against infant baptism.

Why had I not prepared for this discussion? I forgot the powerful appeal the baptism of Jesus by John has for supporters of adult-only baptism.

Since that Bible study I realized that Jesus' baptism had seemed like powerful confirmation of adult baptism in my own thinking for many years. But, in fact, this is a mistake. The Bible makes it repeatedly clear that the baptism of John the Baptist (which is what Jesus underwent) is most definitely NOT Christian baptism. They are completely different. Here is one representative text. "And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus." (Acts 19: 3-5 ESV) John's baptism and the baptism Jesus instituted are different, so John's baptism of the adult Jesus is not the model or standard for Christian baptism.

If you have questions or comments, please email me at george@messiahchurch.ca Please pray for me.

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) In a world like ours, true realism is to call on the Name of the Lord every day.
- 2) Science and technology progress, but human nature remains unchanged.
- 3) Everyone's life is marked by the interplay of our fallen human nature and the presence of God's common grace.

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:

Almighty and everlasting God, Sovereign creator and preserver of all things, I confess to You that I find my identity, comfort and confidence in transient and imaginary things in the world or in myself. Please forgive me. Help me to daily call on the Name of the Lord. Mark me a disciple of Jesus, gripped by the Gospel who has my identity, comfort and confidence in the salvation You bestowed by my humble faith in the death of Jesus Messiah upon the cross. Help me to live for Your glory, not my own. In Jesus' name. Amen!!

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

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Galatians 6: 14

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

When you were young, were your parents more likely to say to you, "Well done!" or "You can do better!" ?

Getting into the Bible

Ask the Lord to pour out the Holy Spirit upon you as you read and pray His word written.

- Read Genesis 4: 1-26
- Read Genesis 4: 23-24. Then read Matthew 18:22.
- Read Genesis 4: 23-24. Then read Jeremiah 9: 23-24; Romans 3: 27-28; 1 Corinthians 1: 29-31; 4:7; 2 Corinthians 11:30; 12:9; Ephesians 2: 8-10.

Getting real

- What has the Lord brought home to you? How will you respond? Can you share something of this with others so they can pray with you about this?

Tuesday, May 9

- 7pm: Lowertown Home Group @ 110 Nelson

Wednesday, May 10

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

Thursday, May 11

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

Sunday, May 14 ONLY

- Traditional worship: 7:45am
- Contemporary worship: 9am

Messiah's Electoral Vestry will be held on Monday, June 19 at 7pm at the Bible House (315 Lisgar St). Everyone is welcome to attend.

Learner's Exchange meets today at 9:15am. David Lundy will speak about the Dalit Freedom Network, an organization working to aid India's Dalit people. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Once again Messiah will participate in **The Big Give**. This year's event takes place on Saturday, June 3. Over 60 Ottawa-area churches will be participating in this event where people of faith bless those in the community by giving things for free.

Here's what you need to know:

- We will be distributing packed lunches and women's personal hygiene kits to our Lowertown / Byward Market neighbours.
- Volunteers will go out in groups of two or more. They will be provided with cards identifying them as Big Give volunteers. They will have Bibles to give out, too, if appropriate.

We will need your help!

- before Saturday, June 3 for shopping
- Friday, June 2 (at The Bible House) to pack lunches and kits
- Saturday, June 3 between 10am-2pm for distribution
- Look for the sign-up sheet next week!

Can't help in person? We would welcome your financial support. You can give via the offering plate. Please clearly indicate that your donation is to support The Big Give. You can send a donation directly to the office via PayPal or e-transfer (Email your contribution to givings@messiahchurch.ca Please use the security question: "What is the pastor's first name?" and the answer: "George") Contact the church office for help. info@messiahchurch.ca

Most importantly, we would welcome your prayer support!

There is a performance at the OLT today so we must be out of the theatre and lobby by 12:30.