

Psalm 88

First Reading
Psalm 88

The Gospel
Matthew 7:15-21

*Free Bibles are available
by the Besserer door.

UPCOMING EVENTS + ANNOUNCEMENTS


TUES / AUG 12 Messiah Prayer Meeting
7:00pm @ Messiah Office (315 Lisgar St.)

Lowertown Home Group
7:00pm @ Ian Murray's

WED / AUG 13 Men's Bible Study
5:30pm @ Rideau Centre

THU / AUG 14 The House (Young Adults)
7:00pm @ The Giles'

For more information about ministries and upcoming events, visit messiahchurch.ca, call **613.235.0596**, or email info@messiahchurch.ca.

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



Church of the
Messiah

Welcome!

Helping ordinary people
be confident, joyful disciples
of Jesus Christ.

August 10, 2014
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

we are a member of:



Anglican Network
in Canada

messiahchurch.ca

Phone
613.235.0596

Email
info@messiahchurch.ca

Mailing Address
315 Lisgar St.
Ottawa ON K2P 0E1



Please ask a greeter
for assistance.

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, you are welcome to <http://messiahchurch.ca/wp-admin/link-manager.php> bring children to the north side of the lobby before or during the service. For Sunday School, children are invited to "follow the cross" during the third worship song.

The Offering Plate

If you are visiting, please feel free to let the plate go by. If you would like to donate, please make cheques out to "**Church of the Messiah**." If you prefer to donate online, go to www.canadahelps.org, then search "Church of the Messiah Ottawa."

Financial Update - Operating Fund

	JAN - JUL ACTUAL	JAN - JUL TARGET
Offering	\$153,025	\$184,479

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rector

Rev. Canon George Sinclair

Worship Leader &

Young Adults Leader

Jeremiah Smith

Administrative &

Communications Manager

Amy van Hemmen

Ministry Interns

Jeremy Giles & Daniel Gilman

Wardens:

Dick Butler, Gary Graber, John Rayson
Shannon Ripley, Karl Ruban, Dana Scherf

Creeds & Controversies

Dear Friends,

The three great Western Creeds (Apostles, Nicene, Athanasian) emerged out of controversies. This accounts for both the strengths and the weaknesses of the creeds.

The great strength of these creeds is that they focus on two areas: the person of Jesus and the Trinity. All of the errors about who Jesus is developed in the first few centuries after Jesus. Is Jesus truly human? Was He created? Is His body human and His soul God? Is He "bits and pieces" of God and man all jumbled together? Did He really die upon the cross or did He only appear to die? Was He born human and then "adopted" or "promoted" to God? The creeds emerged as the early Christians searched the scriptures and prayed and thought deeply over these questions. The creeds were written to carefully set forth what the Bible taught and what it did not teach.

The principal errors about the Trinity also emerged in the first few centuries after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Is there only one God who merely appears as three? Is there only one God who uses three different names? Is Jesus "less God" than the Father? Are there three separate Gods? Is there one God who creates and a different God who redeems? Is every person in the Trinity "all-powerful" or is only one person "all-powerful?" Creeds were written to briefly clarify what the Bible teaches.

The creeds' "weakness" is that they do not set forth all of the "first order" doctrines which Christians need to believe. Actually, I should put this a different way. The creeds do not claim to contain all "first order" doctrine. However, people within churches who want the freedom to deny important doctrines of the Christian faith, use the great creeds as cover for their actions. These new "errorists" will say, "since it is not in the creeds, it is only a matter of preference." However, there are many matters which are central to the Bible's message which are not contained in the three great western creeds: the atoning substitutionary death of Jesus; salvation by faith not works; the verbal inspiration and authority of the Bible (it is God's word written); that goodness is absolute because it is rooted in God; faithfulness in monogamous, heterosexual marriage and sexual abstinence in singleness; the real existence (and certain doom) of the Devil and evil spirits; that Jesus is the only way to God.

Please forgive me for not making an exhaustive list! Please forgive me if my language is not as precise as it should be! The point is, that the creeds were designed to stop error and help Christians to be clear. They were not written to provide cover for later errors.

George +