

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

How often should we partake of The Lord's Supper?

Dear Friends,

I grew up in a Baptist church. We had Holy Communion once a month. The Lord's Supper was the last bit of the church service. I remember that at the end of the service there would be an announcement which both invited Christians to stay for communion and invited non-Christians to leave during the hymn. After the hymn, there would be a brief communion service.

Holy Communion is considered to be one of the two "rites" that Jesus commanded. The other one is baptism. It has always been understood by Christians that one should only be baptized once. (When some churches baptize an adult who was baptized as a child it is because they did not believe the infant baptism was a valid baptism). However, the Bible does not tell us how often we should receive communion (or "partake of the Lord's Supper"). Some churches only offer communion services three or four times a year. At the other end of the spectrum are churches that offer communion weekly (or even daily!) Some large churches rarely offer communion during the main service. This means that, functionally, some people in these churches never receive communion.

As I shared a couple of weeks ago in my blog, Anglicans have a wide variety of practices when it comes to the frequency of communion services. Once-a-month communion was the norm in much of Canada up until the 1970's and it is still the norm in a large part of the Anglican world. Sometimes, one of the issues in Anglican conversations about the frequency of the Lord's Supper is whether God's word written is God's main way to feed us, or whether the Bible is "weak" and we need the sacrament of Holy Communion to be truly strengthened spiritually.

When Jesus was tempted by the Devil in the wilderness, the Devil asked Jesus to perform the miracle of turning stones into bread. Jesus responded (as He did with all of the temptations) by quoting the Bible. In this case He quoted Deuteronomy 8:3, "... man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord." It is beyond the scope of this brief blog to prove this point, but God feeds us by His word. The Bible is, in fact, God's word written (from The 39 Articles of Religion). He speaks to us and calls us into a deeper relationship with Himself. His Word is powerful and true and we should seek to read it daily and feed on it when we gather in worship.

There are, of course, other reasons to think through how frequently we have The Lord's Supper. Good reasons include considering: evangelistic and missiological needs and opportunities; the place of variety in public worship; practicalities connected to time and place; what furthers deep discipleship. We are moving to have communion less frequently. We will have Morning Prayer more often. Please pray that God will lead us and guide us as we think through these issues. Pray that God will build us into a prayerful, Bible teaching, evangelical church in the heart of the city with a heart for the city and the world.

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 am neither a god nor a beast, divine nor garbage, but a creature made by my Creator.
- 2) There is one human race, with one Creator God.
- 3) Human beings were made to tend, develop and guard the creation for the glory of God.

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:

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, Three Persons, One God, I praise You that You alone have created all things out of nothing. I humbly praise You that you are not a distant God, but You formed and breathed life into the man and then formed the woman from the man so that all their sons and daughters equally are image-bearers of You. Please help me to know that you are God and be gripped by the Gospel so I will live my day-to-day life for Your glory. In Jesus' Name. Amen!!

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

..then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. Genesis 2:7

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 _____."

GOING DEEPER

Getting to know me

When you were in high school, were you good in science? Which did you prefer: biology, chemistry, physics or none of the above?

Getting into the Bible

Please remember to pray before and during your reading of the Bible. Ask the Lord to lead you into all truth.

- Read Genesis 2: 4-25. Then read Matthew 19: 4-6; Luke 3: 23-38; Romans 5: 12-14; 1 Corinthians 15: 21-22, 45; 1 Timothy 2: 13-14.
- Read Genesis 2:10. Then read Revelation 22: 1-5.

Getting real

- Has God convicted you in some way as you read His word or were at church on Sunday? Can you share something of this with someone so you can pray together?

Tuesday, March 14

- 7pm: Lowertown Home Group @ 110 Nelson

Wednesday, March 15

- 7pm: Church on Wednesday @ UCU uOttawa
- 7:30pm: Hintonburg Home Group @ 84 Fairmont

Thursday, March 16

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

Friday, March 17

- 8pm: Men's Gathering @ 584 Tweedsmuir Ave.

Saturday, March 18

- 9:30am: Messiah Women Potluck Breakfast @ 315 Lisgar St. Please sign up at the coffee station or contact the office

Learner's Exchange returns next Sunday!

- March 19 – Doug Sprunt will speak about *Emotional and Spiritual Health for Christians*
- March 26 – Gary Graber will speak about *The 39 Articles of Religion*

Friends for Dinner: You can reach out to someone from across the world... right in your own home! How would you like to show hospitality to a foreign student by inviting them for dinner this Easter?

There are thousands of international students in Ottawa and most are free during the holidays. Why not invite some students into your home to share a meal with them? Many do not know the meaning of Easter or why it's significant. It's a great opportunity for you to show God's love to them.

How it works:

- Sign up online at <http://friendsfordinner.ca> (make sure to select "Ottawa"). Explain a bit about your family setup and preferred time to host. Deadline for registration: April 2nd.
- You will be matched with 2 to 3 students and given their contact information. Contact them within a week and arrange a date for the dinner.
- It will be your responsibility to arrange transportation for them. You can pick them up from their residence if they are unfamiliar with public transit.
- You will be sent some materials by email, which may help you understand your guest's culture a bit more.
- Enjoy your meal with them!