

JARS OF CLAY: BEING HUMAN IN CHRIST  
BOASTING AND THE STATE OF MY HEART

First Reading: Haggai 2: 1-9

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 11: 16-33

Psalm 71

\*Free Bibles available on stage near Besserer door.

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Questions and/or comments about the sermon or scripture text? Email [george@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:george@messiahchurch.ca)

Listen to sermons on iTunes: Messiah Church Ottawa Sermons



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

January 29, 2017

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## WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

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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](mailto:info@messiahchurch.ca) or 613.235.0596. Check out the Welcome Centre in the lobby or [messiahchurch.ca](http://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

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**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

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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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:info@messiahchurch.ca)

## A RETURN TO ANCIENT WAYS

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Dear Friends,

Today we begin to do something "new". Please be patient and please pray for Messiah as we make these "changes".

Why did I put "new" in quotation marks? It is because I think God is calling us to return to something wonderful, venerable and ancient which happens to be "new" to us.

What is this "new" thing? A Morning Prayer service. In the English Reformation, the reformers developed two types of Sunday morning services. One was "A Service of the Lord's Supper commonly called Holy Communion". The other service was "Morning Prayer". The communion service had Scripture readings and sermon and holy communion. The Morning Prayer service had Bible readings and sermon and prayers, but no Lord's Supper.

Throughout most of Anglican history, the main Sunday morning service has been Morning Prayer. In many parts of the world this is still the case. In Canada in general and Ottawa in particular, up until the late 1970s, almost every Anglican church had a communion service only once a month; the other services being Morning Prayer. I am not a "cradle Anglican" and I was not attending Anglican churches in the 1970s, so I do not know why things changed. I just know that by the time I became an Anglican, most Anglican churches in Ottawa had stopped doing Morning Prayer and only did communion services.

To paraphrase Jesus, "Church services were made for people, not people for church services." I believe this! So, our Morning Prayer service has modernized the language and relaxed some of the "rubrics" (Anglicanese for the worship service equivalent of "stage instructions" in a play.)

Morning Prayer services have a different rhythm. The confession and sermon and prayers and announcements are in different places in the service compared to a communion service. I will talk more of this the next time we do a Morning Prayer service. For now, on top of the service having a different flow, there will be some other changes as we prayerfully gauge how to adapt the service for our good and God's glory.

The musicians, singers, readers, intercessors, "collection counters", Sunday School and nursery workers will be the ones who most notice the changes. So, please pray! Pray for all who serve at Messiah on a Sunday morning. Pray that we are not just "going through the motions", but that the Holy Spirit will move with power as we gather in Jesus' name to hear His word, remember the Gospel, repent of our sins, intercede for others and praise the Lord.

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) Lord, help me to not merely lead, but be led by Jesus, lead like Jesus and lead to Jesus.
- 2) Lord, help me to die to boasting and grow in humble gratitude.
- 3) Lord, help me today to understand who I am in light of the good news that Jesus died for me to make me right with You.

**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 confess to You that I often find my identity and meaning in being able to boast in my accomplishments or my status. I confess to You That I am often led astray by idols which teach me to boast. Loving Saviour, please help me to die to all of this and live rooted and gripped in Your Gospel. Please ground me in the Gospel so I can see my own frailty in light of Your great and saving power. In Jesus' name, Amen!!

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

*If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.*  
2 Corinthians 11: 30

**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

**Read**

- 2 Corinthians 11: 16-33

**Learn**

- How does the context of 10: 12 - 11:15 help us to understand Paul's boasting rightly?
- What do you think Paul is saying to the Corinthians and why is he saying it?
- What does this teach us today?
- Share with your group and pray about these things together.

**Inwardly Digest**

- Is your concern for your family and friends in Christ, as Paul's for the Corinthians?
- How is that reflected in your daily life?

**Pray**

- Choose one scripture and take a couple of minutes on your own to think about what it is teaching you.
- Turn something you have learned from it into thanksgiving, confession, praise and supplication (asking).
- *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.*

**Tuesday, January 31**

- 7pm: Lowertown Home Group @ 110 Nelson

**Wednesday, February 1**

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

**Thursday, February 2**

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

**Please stay for coffee, lunch and fellowship after today's service!**

**Messiah's Response to the Refugee Crisis:**  
Church of the Messiah has partnered with Grace Presbyterian Church (Orléans) to raise \$20,000 to help bring a Burundian widow and her 6 children to safety in Canada. Details were provided in a letter emailed earlier this week. Copies of that letter are available at the Besserer door and at the Welcome Centre.

**Here's how to contribute:**

- Make a cheque, payable to Grace Presbyterian Church - clearly noting that it is for the Refugee Fund. You can mail it to Grace Church (1220 Old Tenth Line Rd Ottawa ON K1E 3W7) OR place it in the offering plate at Messiah and it will be forwarded to Grace for you (Please clearly mark the envelope that it is for the Refugee Fund).
- Give to Grace Presbyterian Church via CanadaHelps ([www.canadahelps.org/dn/7750](http://www.canadahelps.org/dn/7750)), clearly indicating that it is for the Refugee Fund.

**Questions?** [shirley@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:shirley@messiahchurch.ca)

**The Marriage Preparation Course begins soon!**  
Do you know a couple planning to marry in 2017 or who are thinking about marriage? The 5-week course begins February 26. For info / to register: [shirley@messiahchurch.ca](mailto:shirley@messiahchurch.ca)