

Let Justice Roll Down: The Untameable God Roars

First Reading: Amos 1: 1- 2:3

*Free Bibles available on stage near Besserer door.

Gospel: Matthew 5: 20-26

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

July 3, 2016

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

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 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	Wardens: Dick Butler Jeremiah Hadwen Earl Maynard Shannon Ripley Karl Ruban Dana Scherf
Jonathan Camiré Ministry Intern	

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 "Give" 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

FINANCIAL UPDATE AT JUNE 30, 2016

Target Offering: \$ 152,030

Actual Offering: \$ 137,931

READING AMOS, BUILDING BRIDGES

Dear friends,

"Amos is a weird book. It is too weird to read. The most we can hope for is a few good quotes." This is a common belief of many people when they try to read Amos or any of the minor prophets. The book is filled with odd place names and people with odd names and we do not know who or what they are.

The book of Amos was written sometime between 793BC and 739BC. For the sake of conversation, let's say it was written in 750BC - that is almost 3000 years ago! How do we read such an old book and how do we "get" anything out of the process?

First, remember the words of Jesus after His crucifixion and resurrection in Luke 24: 25-27; 44-47. The Old Testament speaks of Jesus and we are to use its books to bear witness to Jesus and know Him. So while it may take more work, it is not futile work. Jesus tells us there is relevance and value in our study of the Old Testament - so read Amos in hope.

Second, invest in a good, inexpensive study Bible like the ESV (English Standard Version) Study Bible or the new NIV (New International Version) Study Bible. The "notes" will be of some help in understanding the old place names and people names. The introductions also will help you place the book in the "history of salvation". In other words, how does the book of Amos fit into the overall flow of the Bible story?

Third, commit to praying for Daniel and me as we preach through the book of Amos. Pray that the Lord will help us to listen deeply and truly to His Word written. Pray that we can explain the text simply and clearly and faithfully. Pray that we can help people "connect" to the text. Pray that the Lord will use the sermon time to make the text come alive to you. Plan to attend or listen to the sermon afterwards online at www.messiahchurch.ca/sermon-archive/series/amos or via podcast (subscribe to Church of the Messiah on iTunes).

Fourth, pray that bridges are built. John Stott came up with a famous analogy. The book of Amos was written almost 2800 years ago in a foreign language and a very different culture. First, we need to try to understand the Biblical text in and of itself and in its own culture and context. This means reading each part of Amos carefully and in light of the Old and New Testament. Then, and only then, do we prayerfully "build a bridge" from Amos to life in Ottawa in 2016. Here are some sample questions in building such a bridge. What human problems is the Bible addressing here? What human longings or fears are being addressed here? What human questions is the Bible raising or addressing?

One final note. Amos, like most prophetic books, uses lots of images and metaphors. To read Amos literally does not mean to treat an image like a fact, but to read Amos on its own terms, letting an image/metaphor be an image/metaphor and learning what it is pointing to or telling.

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) The sooner I stop trying to tame the living God the better.
- 2) It is vain to believe I judge the true and living God.
- 3) The living God is bigger and more enduring than any ruler or nation.

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, You alone are the creator and sustainer of all things. You alone are the sovereign judge of every human being and every human institution. You alone are the true, the good and the beautiful. You alone save and redeem, for You are grace and mercy. Please make me a disciple of Jesus, gripped by the Gospel who is growing daily in the fear and love of You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the Lord pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.
Psalm 135:5-6

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.

Do you have any phobias or fears?

Getting into the Bible.

Remember to pray to the Lord. Ask Him to renew your mind so that it is not conformed to this age.

- 1) Read Amos 1: 1-2:3.
- 2) Read Amos 1:1. Then read 2 Kings 14:23 - 15:7.
- 3) Read Amos 1: 3-5. Then read Romans 1: 1-2:5 then 2:14-15.

Getting real.

Has the Lord convicted you of some sin to repent of? Some action to undertake? Can you share something of this with others so they can pray for you?

UPCOMING EVENTS + ANNOUNCEMENTS

MON / JULY 4

Monday Night in the Park
6:30pm @ Strathcona Park

Brian C Information evening
7 - 9pm @ 205 Bolton St. - Apt 308
(The Allan's). Come out to hear about Brian's mission work with Wycliffe Associates and how you might be able to support him in his ministry.

BETWEEN-SERVICE PRAYER continues each Sunday @ 9:30am in the OLT lobby. Join us as we pray for the world, the church and one another.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES AT MESSIAH: A number of leadership changes are taking place at Messiah. A big thank you to the following, who are stepping down, for their dedicated service:

- Warden - Gary Graber
- Warden - John Rayson
- Youth Leaders - Josh and Hilary deBoer
- Sunday School Coordinator - Lisa Moore Ede
- Choir Coordinator - Heidi Jost
- Jericho Road Coordinator - Katherine Sinclair

Thanks to the following who have agreed to serve as follows:

- Warden - Jeremiah Hadwen
- Warden - Earl Maynard
- Sunday School Coordinator - Karen Cooper
- Choir Coordinator - Heather Vos
- Jericho Road Coordinator - Candace Maynard
- Host / Offering Coordinators - Lucas and Andrea Michel

We bid a fond farewell to Joey McNitt who has served as our **Worship Leader** for the past ten months. Please keep Joey in prayer as he begins to serve as the Youth and Worship Pastor at Erindale Bible Chapel in Mississauga.