



FIRST READING
Psalm 46

GOSPEL
Luke 21:25-33

*Free Bibles available
at the Besserer door.

Our Refuge & Strength
A SERMON FOR THE NEW YEAR : DANIEL GILMAN

Lined area for notes or reflections.

Questions/ comments about the sermon or scripture text?
Email George at questionpastor@gmail.com.



Welcome!

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

December 29, 2013

we are a member of:



messiahchurch.ca



Please ask a greeter
for assistance.

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Vision for Ministry

Dear Friends,

As 2013 ends and 2014 is about to begin, it is a good time to pray for Messiah and the ministry or "assignments" God has given us. We express our mission as, "Helping ordinary people be confident, joyful disciples of Jesus Christ." This means we want to help ordinary people become a disciple of Jesus and then grow in Christ-likeness as they follow Jesus in their daily life. We pray that people will die to self-confidence while growing in Jesus confidence. This means that we will also grow in the joy of the Lord - which is our strength.

A "vision" is what we believe God desires us to grow into. We express it as, "Building a prayerful, Bible-teaching evangelical church in the heart of the city with a heart for the city and the world." In saying this we are mindful that "unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain." Psalm 127:1. We are also mindful that "the city" is not a code word for "the poor." The poor are part of the city. However, the city of Ottawa is also a city of national government, international embassies, the arts, universities, business, high tech and much more. We desire to have a heart for our city and its people. We desire to bear witness to the good news that God has provided a way for ordinary people to be reconciled to Himself. This way is open to any who enter it by repentance and faith. The Way is Jesus - whose death and resurrection is the means by which God reconciles.

This mission and vision lead to a vision for ministries at Messiah. Whether we minister to children or artists or bureaucrats or politicians or immigrants or entrepreneurs, these seven characteristics need to be "lived out" in every season of ministry.

- 1) We will share the gospel hoping for a response. The Gospel is "... the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes." Rom 1:16.
- 2) We will preach and teach the Bible. We want to see Jesus and the Gospel in all of the Bible (Luke 24:44) and we want to declare the whole council of God (Acts 20:26-27) and we want to be hearers and doers of the word (Luke 8:1-15).
- 3) We will pray. "When we work, we work. When we pray, God works."
- 4) We will love our city. Each ministry will restate this line to name who they minister to. For example, the Sunday School would say, "We will love children and their families."
- 5) We will love our local church and its people.
- 6) We will love world missions.
- 7) We will have fun.

Please pray!
George +

New Year's Day Prayer Meeting & Holy Communion

Join us at 10:00am on January 1 at the Messiah Office (152 Metcalfe) for a quiet and contemplative time of prayer and Holy Communion.

Church Office Closed

The Messiah Office will be closed from Dec. 23 to Jan. 1.

2014 Prayerbook Calendars

Now available in the lobby for only \$6.00 each.

Men's & Women's Ministries

Stay tuned for upcoming Men's & Women's Ministry events in the new year!

For more info, visit messiahchurch.ca or call **613-235-0596**.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Estimate of contributions needed by Dec. 31, 2013 to break even this fiscal year: **\$27,000** (as of Dec. 8, 2013)

Please make cheques out to "Church of the Messiah."
If you wish to donate online, go to www.canadahelps.org, then search "Church of the Messiah Ottawa." Thank you!

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

Natasha Wallace