



# Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity



## Sunday Report



## Veterans Day and

## 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the United States Marine Corps



Today was the Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity, as well as the Sunday after both the 236<sup>th</sup> birthday of the United States Marine Corps (10 November 1775) and Veterans Day (11 November). Sunrise brought the beautiful crystal clear blues skies which resulted from the cold front last night which gave us an inch and half of rain, sunrise temperature was 42°F, rising to 63°F by the end of church. We need the rain so we are happy for the change of weather! The lovely weather brought 4 people to worship.

### *Gathering Song*

Jack Arnold played *Amazing Grace* for the gathering song.

### **Amazing Grace**

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we've first begun.



## Propers

Each Sunday there are Propers: special prayers and readings from the Bible. There is a Collect for the Day; that is a single thought prayer, most written either before the re-founding of the Church of England in the 1540s or written by Bishop Thomas Cranmer, the first Archbishop of Canterbury after the re-founding.

The Collect for the Day is to be read on Sunday and during Morning and Evening Prayer until the next Sunday. If you have a hard time remembering, "Do I read the Collect from last Sunday or next Sunday during the week?" Remember Sunday is the first day of the week. There are also two Bible readings, the Epistle and the Gospel. While they are "lessons", they are not the First Lesson and the Second Lesson, they are the Epistle and the Gospel. The Epistle is normally a reading from one of the various Epistles, or letters, in the New Testament. The Gospel is a reading from one of the Holy Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Collect is said by the minister as a prayer, the Epistle can be read by either a designated reader (as we do in our church) or by one of the ministers and the Holy Gospel, which during the service in our church is read by an ordained minister or our Deacon Striker.

The propers are the same each year, except if a Red Letter Feast, that is one with propers in the prayerbook, falls on a Sunday, then those propers are to be read instead, except in a White Season, where it is put off. Red Letter Feasts, so called because in the Altar Prayerbooks the titles are in red, are special days. Most of the Red Letter Feasts are dedicated to early saints instrumental in the development of the church, others to special events. Some days are particularly special and the Collect for that day is to be used for an octave (eight days) or an entire season, like Advent or Lent.

The Propers for today are found on Page 218-220, with the Collect first:

### Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

#### *The Collect.*

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Ryan Hopkins read the Epistle for this morning which came from Saint Paul's Letter to



the Ephesians, the Sixth Chapter, beginning at the Tenth Verse. In these passages, Paul gives his clearest definition of the spiritual war between the forces of Satan and those who would follow God. It not only assures us that there is a spiritual war, but it warns us that apart from utilizing the weapons which God has provided for us, we are hopelessly underpowered. This passage tells us what our divine weapons are. Beyond this, these weapons imply the nature of the struggle which we are in. The weapons which God has provided for us are those weapons which best repel the attacks of Satan, and thus we can learn a great deal about the nature of Satan's opposition from simply considering each of the weapons at our disposal.

After a consideration of the war in general, we will then proceed to examine in more detail each of the weapons Paul mentions, and the offensive strategy of Satan which they imply. May God give us open hearts and minds to understand the spiritual war, and the means which He has provided for our defense.

**M**Y brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Deacon Striker Jack Arnold read the Holy Gospel which came from the Fourth Chapter



of the Gospel according to St. John beginning at the Forty-Sixth Verse. This is a telling of the story of the healing of a Jewish nobleman's son Capernaum through the faith of his father. When the man came to him asking for help, he responded as he often did to Jews, "Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe." The man persisted and because Jesus saw faith in him, he said, focusing his attention on faith in God, "Go thy way; thy son liveth" or "Be on your way. Your son is alive." In other words: "Do not worry. My Word can heal your son at a distance." The boy was healed in the very instant when Jesus spoke the Word. The father believed this Word. So did his household, wife, children and servants.

More than one person was healed on that occasion.

This miracle shares characteristics with the previous healing of the Centurion's son:

- Jesus has just come back to Galilee.
- Someone comes to him with a request.
- Indirectly Jesus seems to refuse at first.
- The person persists.
- Jesus grants the request.
- This leads another group of people (his disciples, the nobleman's household) to believe in him.

Note the necessity of trusting in Jesus as the giver of life. Of the text, Luther wrote: "Although the Lord performed miracles and signs to make Himself known and to lead people to faith in Him, the underlying purpose was to focus their attention on the Word rather than on the signs which served merely to attest the truth of His testimony. Faith must rest on the Word of God." Another Lutheran theologian wrote: "In affliction faith is practiced and chastened. If a person does not see, taste and experience the help and grace of the Lord, then that person learns to trust the Word and nothing but the Word. That is the true faith, trusting the Lord for its own sake. Such faith comes not from flesh and blood. It's the Lord to which faith clings. That almighty Word works faith."

Jesus led this nobleman from a "miracle" faith to a true faith in His Word. He does this to us also.

"Be on your way. Your son lives." This Word of Jesus was not only a prophecy. It had the power to heal the sick boy. And this Word took the nobleman's worries away.

**T**HERE was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judæa into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth. Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house. This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judæa into Galilee.

### *Sermon – Time and Action*

Today's sermon tied the Epistle and Gospel together and is partly contained in the forewords above.



As is oft the case, today's propers are all tied together. As is usual, they call for action not just thoughts. We are asked to let God forgive us our sins and go to battle in this world with His armor. With Him all things are possible; when we depend on our own pitiful resources, the outcome is in doubt and the result unlikely to be favorable in the end. When you believe in our Lord and act on that belief, victory is certain in the end. Understand, the result here on earth may not be the one you want, but it is the one God wants for you. God expects you to accept His help and act with His help to gain victory over the

prince of this world.

Consider also that God, through our Lord, offers forgiveness. Forgiveness lets you restart your life, regain your foothold, strengthen your soul. If you accept the forgiveness and go forward you can do great things. If you will not, and likewise you will not forgive, you will be bound by the prince of this world and doomed to failure. You will never attain the greatness of which you are capable with God's grace and help.

Do what is right, I would say no matter if there is no one looking; but He is always looking. It is not that hard. Believe, take His help, act on the belief you profess, never ever give up.

### *Bishop Ogles' Devotion*

Bishop Jerry provided his sermon notes for today. I thought them incredibly interesting, I always enjoy them, but there was something about this one that was more than usual. I am certain you will find them very enjoyable. As always, I cannot commend it to you enough.

### **Sermon Notes, 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Trinity 13 November 2011 Anno Domini** St Andrews Anglican Orthodox Church - John 4:46-54



*46 So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.<sup>47</sup> When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. <sup>48</sup> Then said Jesus unto him, **Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.** <sup>49</sup> The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. <sup>50</sup> Jesus saith unto him, **Go thy way; thy son liveth.** And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. <sup>51</sup> And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth. <sup>52</sup> Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. <sup>53</sup> So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and*

*himself believed, and his whole house. <sup>54</sup> This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.*

An interesting passage in John 2: <sup>23</sup>Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did. <sup>24</sup> But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men, <sup>25</sup> And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

Upon what mysterious foundation is faith based?

Is it upon great signs and wonders performed, or is it based on a more personal level?

We see magicians frequently do amazing feats of deception which appear real, and we are unable to discover the means by which they performed their mysteries. But do we trust them with our sacred honor and souls? No way. There must be something else that gives us cause for trust.

Let us examine the narrative.....

This is the early beginning of Christ's ministry.

We are told in the last verse of our text that this was the second of all miracles that Jesus performed.

He has returned to his home country of Cana and, specifically Capernaum where he had spoken in a synagogue and they tried to stone him...

Luke 4: 16 *And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.*<sup>17</sup> *And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,*<sup>18</sup> *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,*<sup>19</sup> *To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.*<sup>20</sup> *And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.*<sup>21</sup> *And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.*

There is a nobleman who lived nearby who had heard just rumor of His words and His deeds. His son was dying. There was no hope in any healing except, perchance, through this great man, Jesus, of Gallilee. So he came to Him.

*And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.*<sup>47</sup> *When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death.*

The simplest and obvious use of sorrow is to remind of God. Jairus and the woman, like many others (as this nobleman), came to Christ from a sense of want. It would seem that a certain shock is needed to bring us in contact with reality. In Psychology, this is termed a 'significant emotional event.' We are not conscious of our breathing till obstruction makes it felt.

Need is what brings us to the hospital, and need is what brings us to Christ!

What was Jesus response, and to whose benefit was it uttered?

Not for the nobleman because his very belief and faith were confirmed by his request of Christ.

If he doubted that Christ could heal his son, he would not have left him to die alone and come to ask Jesus to heal him.

Jesus' response: *Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.*

This man had seen no signs or wonders but, yet, he believed. His knowledge of Christ was meager, but his faith in the small knowledge he did have was tremendous!

The Nobleman paid no mind to the seeming dismissal of Christ. He KNEW Christ, and he KNEW Christ would heal his son – so he simply persisted in his prayer to Christ.

*The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.*

Once you know Christ, you have the boldness to ask that which is most vexing in your heart. Love was the motivator.

The result Jesus' had elicited was accomplished through the persevering testimony of the nobleman. He would not take 'no' for an answer because he knew Christ and he knew it was not the Will of Christ that his little boy should die...so he had the courage

to press for the answer he sought.

That is called effectual prayer, and many of us do not have it.

When we have prayed a righteous prayer, and have met the righteous Lord, we must believe that what He has told us in His Word will surely come to pass:

Look at how the nobleman reacted: *And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.*

What happens next?

All that he had accepted on faith was born out in reality:

*And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth.*

*<sup>52</sup>Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. <sup>53</sup> So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house.*

Christ will always confirm His seal upon the answers to our prayers whether it be yes or no.

And at last we read that this was only the second miracle that Christ had wrought. The first miracle was to transform the water into wine at the marriage feast at Cana of Galilee.

*This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee*

You may say: "Ah, yes, but the nobleman must have been at the feast and saw this miracle and so believed." Really? There would seem to me to be a large gulf between turning water into wine and healing a child at the point of death. There was something more, and that was the fact that the nobleman saw in the Person of Christ a truth that escapes many observers...this was the Son of God who was able to do all that He willed to do.

When we lift our prayers to God, do we pray in earnest for a righteous cause, as this nobleman?

Do we pray for the good of others, as this nobleman, before our own interests are pursued?

Do we pray knowing the Person to whom our prayers are directed, as this nobleman?

Do we pray, as this nobleman, knowing that it is already the will of the Father to grant our petition because we already have learned His will for us?

Do we leave our prayers at the portals of heaven and return to our daily business, as this nobleman, knowing that the answer, yes, or no, will be the right answer?

Do we state our case, as this nobleman, and then wait for the answer?

Finally, do we cease to pester God and go our way believing in faith?

If we do so, our prayers shall be answered and the answer will always be the right answer.

Amen.

## *Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sermon*

Bishop Dennis is a brilliant speaker. He is able to take biblical precepts and make them perfectly understandable, even to me. Oft he provides the text of his sermons and I take the utmost pleasure in passing them on:



### **Faith, the Foundation of Pardon and Peace**

John 4:46-54

Twenty First Sunday after Trinity

13 November 2011

I think Jesus was not chastising the man when He said, "Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe." I think He was proving a point to others.

He had recently returned from Jerusalem, and many of the people around Him when He spoke these words had been in Jerusalem and witnessed His words and deeds there. That's why they still followed Him in Galilee, and many wondered if He was the Messiah, and if He was, how would they know? Many decided they would know if He could convince them by signs and wonders. If He would just do a miracle, they could believe. But after each miracle, they demanded another. They wanted more proof. He turned the water into wine. "Yes, but I need more proof; can He heal the sick?" He healed the sick. "Yes, but I need more proof; can He raise the dead?" He raised the dead. "Yes, but I need more proof; can He die and rise again?" He died and rose again. And still they say, "Yes, but I need more proof." That is the line of reasoning adopted by the people in today's Gospel reading. After all, they knew Him. He was from Nazareth, the carpenter's son, "You know, He always was a little odd."

Those people were no different from people today. They wanted signs, so do we. They wanted proof, so do we. They wanted miracles, so do we. So much of what people do in worship and in life is aimed at making God prove Himself to them by signs and wonders. We feel we must have an ecstatic experience to reaffirm to us that we are following the true God. We must get some emotional feeling from worship to prove to ourselves that we are actually worshiping God or that we are in the Spirit. We must get that miracle of healing, or wealth, or relationships, to prove that God is with us. It is exactly this line of thinking that Jesus chastises here. He wants people to believe because they see in Him the goodness of God. He wants them to believe because they hear the voice of God in His words, and the message of God in His teachings. But, then, as now, people gloss over the message, and seek signs and wonders.

But this nobleman is not asking for a sign. He is asking Jesus to use His Divine power, not to prove who He is, but to bless his son, to do good for His people. So this man had faith. He already believed. He didn't know everything about Jesus. He didn't know yet that He was going to the cross and came to save Israel from her sins. But he believed what he knew about Jesus, that He was the Messiah of God and that He had come to save His people. So he asked Jesus, just as we ask Him today, to heal his son. He is not saying, "Heal my son and I will believe in You." He is not saying, "Heal my son and I will be a good person from now on." He is asking in faith, for God to have mercy on him and his son, just the way we ask Him in prayer to have mercy on us and our loved ones.

In this case, Jesus healed the child. He doesn't always heal, at least not the way we want. Sometimes He does raise up the sick, returning them to us to live on in this

world. But, sometimes He raises them up to a new world, the Heavenly world, where they won't have to be sick or die ever again. From our perspective, He has let them die. From His perspective, He has healed them forever.

This brings us to a major point of this passage of Scripture, that faith trusts the word of God. The nobleman trusted the word of Christ, "go thy way; thy son liveth." Yes, his faith became stronger when he heard that his son was well, and I am sure he believed even more strongly when he arrived at his home and was greeted by his healthy and happy son. The Bible tells us he believed, "and his whole house." But the words of Christ were the foundation of his hope. He believed the word.

It is the same way today. It is the word which secures our faith. We do not put our hope in miracles. We see in the pages of Scripture that evil people have worked miracles. The sorcerers of Egypt are but one example. We do not trust in experiences or emotions. They can be conjured up in us by skillful speakers and entertaining shows. The Corinthians of the New Testament are relevant examples of this. But the word of God is solid and sure and endureth forever. "My words shall not pass away." "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free," Jesus said (Mt 24:35, Jn. 8:31-32). The Scriptures are the foundation of our faith. We believe because we have met Christ in the Bible. We believe because His word has convinced us. We believe because in Christ we have met God.

Now, we come to the point. All that I have said so far has been leading up to this; this same Jesus, who kept His word to the Jewish nobleman, is able and willing to keep His word to us. He is faithful and true. So, when He says "no man cometh unto the Father but by me," we can believe it. And when He says, whosoever believeth on Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life," we can count on Him for it. J. C. Ryle, commenting on this passage wrote:

The fact before us is singularly full of comfort. It gives enormous value to every promise of mercy, grace, and peace, which ever fell from Christ's lips. He that by faith has laid hold on some word of Christ has got his feet upon a rock. What Christ has said, He is able to do; and what He has undertaken, He will never fail to make good. The sinner who has really reposed his soul on the word of the Lord Jesus, is safe to all eternity. He could not be safer if he saw the book of life, and his own name written in it. If Christ has said, "Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out," and our hearts can testify, "I have come," we need not doubt that we are saved. In the things of this world we say that seeing is believing. But in the things of the Gospel, believing is as good as seeing. Christ's word is as good as man's deed. He of whom Jesus says in the Gospel, "He liveth," is alive for evermore, and shall never die." (*Expository Thoughts on the Gospels*, vol. 3, p. 254).

We are almost to the end of Trinity Season. Next Sunday is the last Sunday in this season. After it we move into Advent. As Trinity is about the meaning of the Gospel to us in everyday life, it is meet and right that today we should emphasise the pardon and peace that is ours in Christ. It is also meet and right that we should remember that pardon and peace are for those who believe.

Let us pray.

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *New Nametags*

We had no new nametags today.

### *After Church Hospitality*

No dog nuts AGAIN today. Today we met at Viejas Buffet for lunch. Next week dog nuts!

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
20 November 2011	Dru Arnold
27 November 2011	<b>Opportunity Available</b>
4 December 2011	<b>Opportunity Available</b>
11 December 2011	<b>Opportunity Available</b>
18 December 2011	<b>Opportunity Available</b>
25 December 2011	<b>Opportunity Available</b>
1 January 2012	Jack Arnold

*People in our Prayers* - <http://faithfulcenturionprayerteam.blogspot.com/>

### **Why? Prayer is an extremely important activity.**

It is not that God knows not our needs, for He surely does. Yet, Jesus commanded us to ask God for those same needs. In addition to the obvious of asking God for help, offering thanksgiving and the like, prayer helps us focus our thoughts on how we might do God's work.

The Prayer Team of the Church of the Faithful Centurion was established to help our members and fellow Christians pray for those in need and to give thanks as well for the blessings we have been granted.

### **Who can be on the list? Do I have to be a member of the Church of the Faithful Centurion to be prayed for?**

No! The only qualification to be on the list is that you want our prayer team to pray for you. We are Christians and are happy to pray for you, no matter who you are. If you want help from God, you are our kind of people.

### **What is the commitment from the prayer team?**

Each member of the team will pray for the desired outcome at last once per day.

### **How do I get myself or someone else on the prayer list?**

You can email one of the prayer team leaders: Jack - [jack@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:jack@faithfulcenturion.org) or Dru - [dru@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:dru@faithfulcenturion.org), or call the church office at (619) 659-3608 or fill out a prayer card at church.

### **What should I ask for?**

Depends on what you want. Some people merely want God to be asked to heal their ills and be mentioned by their first name, others want a specific outcome and / or have more of their personal information known to the team. Ask for what you want. It is your desire and need for prayer the team is attempting to meet. For typical examples, see the list below.

### **Updating the Team**

If you are on our prayer list, or if you have submitted a person that you have asked us to pray for, please update one of the team members or Hap in person, by telephone or email. It helps to be able to pray specifically for these individuals including their specific needs; plus if they get better, it is nice to give thanks!

Please note that on the yellow (maybe green or orange if you get an old one) cards at church, you can ask that those to be prayed for have their names disseminated to the prayer team. Those names will be said in church and appear here. Or, you can ask that their names and purpose be kept confidential, then only Hap will know to pray for them.

***Prayer List Notice – If you have someone on the prayer list and their needs have changed, please let us know. We'd like to update our prayers to reflect the need and most important to give thanks!***

### ***Travel***

*Hap* is on travel this week.

### ***Move***

*The Thomas Family* is on a short tour assignment in Guam for the next two years. Please pray for the assignment to go well for Kurt and for Mary and the kids to make new friends and Kristyna and Mitchell in particular to develop good friends and school mates there so as to further their development.

### ***Birthday***

*Don Patton* celebrated his 49<sup>th</sup> birthday 13 November 2011.

*Jack Arnold* celebrated his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday with us 26 October 2011.

*Lauralee Meade* celebrated her birthday 25 September 2011.

*Shamim Gray* celebrated her 44<sup>th</sup> birthday 4 September 2011.

### ***Homebound or Infirm***

*Sara's mother* is in a state of deteriorating health, both physically and mentally. Please pray for peace of mind for her and the ability for both Sara and her mother to put their cares and worries on God's shoulders so they can deal with the many problems involved.

### ***Departed***

*Colonel Don Frisbee, USAF* passed away on 12 October 2011, after bowel surgery, infection and pneumonia. Please pray for the repose of his soul and comfort for his wife Bev and their family.

*Colonel Don Durbin, USAF* passed away on 12 October 2011, after what appeared to be an abdominal problem. A visit to the hospital found that he had congestive heart failure and liver problems. Shortly thereafter, he developed multiple blood clots and dementia. Don passed away shortly thereafter with his family by his side. Please pray for the repose of his soul and comfort for his wife Lynn and their family.

### ***In need of a miracle or understanding of God's Plan***

*Todd* and *Kenny* have both been fighting osteocarcinoma for over five years and have been told their time here on earth is nearing its end, absent a miracle from God. Both are ready to go home and leave the pain, but would like to stay. Please pray for them and their families.

### ***Healing***

*Bill Aitken* had a second abdominal surgery on 3 November 2011, an attempt by the Top Gun doctor in the world and inventor of the process of endolooping ligation of rare tumors such as his loop the tumor. The tumor was too big for the loop, and Dr. Binmoeller said he probably could have gotten 99% of it, but that wasn't

good enough as he wants to have Bill 100% cured. Bill is in a bit of shock, as this was his "go-to" choice of all possible procedures, with the least possibility of unthinkable complications. But Dr. B. explained things, and contacted gastrointestinal surgeon Dr. Gregg Jossart, who specializes in minimally invasive surgical resections of the gastrointestinal tract, etc. (Bill's tumor is deep in the 5th lining of his stomach.) Bill has an appointment next Wednesday with Dr. J, and (fingers crossed) will get a surgery date of next Friday, as the situation is "urgent."

Please pray for guidance for the team treating Bill and for his recovery. Pray also for peace of mind for Bill and his wife Sara.

*Walt Dexter* had a stroke the week of 12 September 2011 and is still mostly half paralyzed. Please pray for a full and complete recovery for Walt and for peace of mind for him and his wife Fran.

*Gil Garcia* is back in the hospital for a re-do of his colostomy and a couple of relatively minor skin surgeries. Not only is this getting to Gil, but his wife Mary is very tired from all this. Please pray for guidance for the team treating Gil. Pray also for peace of mind for Gil and his wife Mary.

*Dotty Valkenaar* has been diagnosed with a reoccurrence of breast cancer and had a double mastectomy and no reconstruction on 23 August 2011 in Seattle. Seemingly everything went very well, however there were complications in the recovery, but she is home. Now a torn muscle has surfaced in her shoulder, perhaps as a result of positioning during surgery. There is concern over a reoccurrence of the cancer and some question as to whether to do chemotherapy or not. Dotty is also having problems with fluid building in her upper body area. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for her to make the correct decisions regarding treatment and pray for continued peace of mind through trust in God for Dotty and Lew, her husband, as well as their entire family.

*Lew Valkenaar* developed ankle and leg pain and swelling in his lower right leg due to a blood clot. The blood clot taken care of he is on Cumadin for six months and wearing a cool compression stocking on one leg, kind of a Michael Jackson thing.

*Ryan Hopkins* managed to injure his back somehow. Please pray for the medical people treating him to pay attention and figure out what the problem is, then come up with a workable solution. Give Ryan patience while all this happens.

*Loretta Walker* underwent gall bladder surgery on Friday, 1 July 2011. The surgery was expected to go fairly smoothly, but there was more to it than expected. She required a second surgical attempt, which did not solve the problem. The third surgery worked. Please pray for her to maintain a good attitude, trust in the Lord, as well as eat and in particular drink at home. Pray for her family, in particular her daughters Tricia and Jenny and granddaughters Whitney and Cayenne who are taking care of her. Please give thanks for her successful surgery and pray for a complete return to health. Please pray for peace of mind for Loretta and her family, in particular her daughters who are there to help her. Pray for her trust in our Lord and for both her and her family to let God carry their worries while she recovers.

*Morris Martin, 91*, was hospitalized with pneumonia, he in rehab now and doing well, he has been irritated by having a feeding tube in until his throat can heal and be retrained, but he has responded with renewed effort when he failed the swallow

test on 21 July 2011. He had a bit of a fever from which he seems to have recovered; it is hard, but he is strong. Give thanks for his great attitude and trust in God. Pray for strength and peace of mind for Morris and his family, in particular his son Paul. Pray for his trust in our Lord and for both him and his family to let God carry their worries while he recovers.

*Steve Sundberg* had a heart attack after Easter. After some time, the medical team treating him decided he was not a candidate for stents and a five-way heart bypass was performed the week of 6 June 2011. Please give thanks for an apparently very successful surgery and also pray for his complete recovery and for his three children and family who are very worried about him, pray also for his trust in our Lord and for both him and his family to let God carry their worries while he recovers.

*Matt Alcantara*, age 15, has Osteosarcoma (bone cancer), a very rare and often lethal form of cancer with limited treatment options. This is a disease that is about 90 percent fatal in a couple of years. He has no hip joint on one side, but he walks and swims! Courage? Guts? You bet! Matt's scans on 20 June 2011, were CLEAN! Thanks be to God for the way things have gone. Thanks also for the great faith of Matt and his entire family. Their faith and trust is a wonderful example for each and every one of us. But, now is not the time to stop praying. Actually, it never is the time to stop praying!

*Won King* underwent surgery the week after Memorial Day. She is now home, but doctors had difficulty stabilizing her blood thinning medication levels; but all seems fine now. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and medication setting.

*Melanie Zimmers* has what appears to be a badly bulged disc at C5-C-6 which is causing radiating pain down her right arm and numbness in her thumb and forefinger. She has been in physical therapy and is set to undergo epidural injections in July 2011. Please pray for resolution of her problem and a good attitude while a means to solve the problem is found.

*Hal Campbell* underwent apparently successful surgery for a cancerous lesion on the inside of his cheek and the associated lymph node on 7 March 2011, at the VA hospital in Seattle. Friday, 17 June 2011, his 62<sup>nd</sup> birthday, he started his first food by mouth since he finished six weeks of follow up Chemo and Radiation treatment to hopefully eradicate and cancerous cells that might have remained. Please pray for him to be able to eat so that he can have the feeding tube removed, for remission of the cancer and most of all for his acceptance of Christ.

*Shamim Gray* underwent a lumpectomy on Saturday 6 November 2010 at Bethesda Naval Hospital, with apparent great result. Please pray for a complete remission of the cancer. Pray also Shamim will maintain her great attitude and trust in God.

*Judith Clingwall*, is afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). She is currently in Laurel Place, an extended care facility in Surrey, British Columbia. Judith's condition seems stable a present, although the medication levels have been increased. Please pray for her to take an active part in her own life, for her strength, peace of mind, trust in God and remission of the disease so she might return home to her family. Pray also for strength for her husband Martin as he deals with all the problems and stress of Judith's situation.

*Becky Madden* is paralyzed from the neck down as the result of a tragic shooting

accident. She has made it home and to church in a new donated magic wheelchair. Please pray for further recovery for Becky, as well as strength and guidance for each of those involved.

*Betty Macauley*, Tim's mom, is currently in a state of failing health. Please pray she will gain interest in life around her and actively pursue life here on earth. Please pray for her family, in particular her son Tim, as they try to help her.

*Lauralee* underwent a lumpectomy on Friday after Thanksgiving. A further anomaly has been discovered and she had additional preventative radiation treatment. Please pray for a complete remission of the cancer. Pray also Lauralee will maintain her great attitude and trust in God.

*Luca*, 5 years old, from our church family in Perth, Western Australia, who has just been diagnosed with leukemia. And for his Mum and Dad and extended family.

*Greg Chase asks that you pray for his family:*

*Diane*, Greg's wife, has a positive attitude dealing with the ongoing treatment of her ulcerative colitis. They are grateful for a positive attitude and would be pleased to see physical progress.

*Phyllis*, Greg's mom, has stabilized as the result of the good home care she is receiving and recently celebrated her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday.

*Wilma* is at home after three weeks in the hospital and is working on building strength for a planned hip replacement in August 2011.

*Vince (age 13)*, recurrence of cancer, recent testing found a nickel sized tumor in his lungs. The doctors are consulting with a specialist in Houston. Please pray for guidance for the medical team and for peace of mind for Vince and his family.

*Obra Gray* continues to take day by day. Please continue to keep Obra in your prayers, and give him the strength of knowing the Lord is with him and will never forsake him. Obra needs security of what lies ahead of him, and only the Lord can grant the solace to answer his prayer.

*Bashir Ahmed*, father of Shamim Gray, has been blessed with the Lord's breath of life to stay on this earth for the time being. But, things are hard for him and his loving wife, who cares for him. They have two young nieces living with them who see no real need to help, pray for God to enter their hearts. Above all, pray for his entire family to open their hearts to accept all God's love will bring them.

*Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay)* is still home and doing pretty well considering the bones in her neck and hands are degenerating as a side effect of her kidney failure. Her thumbs are not particularly useful any more. Mrs. Kay asks everyone who is praying for her know how grateful she is for their prayers. As always, she retains her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude

### **Guidance**

*Steve* asks that you pray for difficulties he is having with his family. Please pray that the Holy Ghost will enter into his heart and provide him with the heaven sent inspiration that he needs to see clearly and deal with problems and the courage to do what needs to be done in the manner it should be done.

*Jacquie* to open her heart to God and accept His Love and Grace.

*Hap* and *Ryan* both ask you to pray that they might be able to trust God will help them make the right decisions at the right time and not to worry uselessly, to change those things they can change, accept those things they cannot change and that

they will open their hearts to the Holy Ghost.

### ***Armed Forces & Contractors***

Airman Donny Patton (RAF Mildenhall, UK), Jordan (USMC – AIT), Neal (USN-Afghanistan), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator), Trevor (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Guam),

### ***Persecuted***

Around the world, Christians are under attack, not only in the Muslim world, but from Hindus and others in India. Also, they are under continual attack in the name of “Separation of Church and State” in the western world, as it becomes actively atheist or pro-devil buddy. Please pray for God’s guidance and protection for all persecuted Christians and those around them.

### ***Thanksgiving***

*Thanksgiving for All Veterans for their service to our country and our freedom.*  
Hap gives thanks for safe and interesting travel this week.

### ***Various Special Requests***

We ask that you pray, please ask God that the Holy Ghost might give you insight into how you might make the lives of your friends and family better. Remember helping others is not just those who you don’t know!

Please join us in praying that the *Free Teen Guitar Class* will be continue to be an opportunity for God to work in the lives of the kids and their families. Please ask God to guide the class to new opportunities to make Him known to others. Help us to let the love of our Lord shine through us into their lives, putting Him first, so that He might enter in to their hearts and lives.

### ***Question that only you can ask***

What would you like to know about our history, what we believe, what we do or how we operate? Hap is looking for material for the continuing education class and *Thought for the Day* material. Help us help you. Please send your question to Hap so we all can get an answer. Just because you don’t know the answer to your question doesn’t mean you are the only one who doesn’t know. But, if you don’t ask, no one will know.

### ***Are you too tired to go to church?***

While a resident of the Hanoi Hilton, Lieutenant Commander John McCain participated in a church service in 1971 in defiance of hotel rules which resulted in him spending most of a year in a camp reserved for "bad attitude" cases. He considered it a good investment.

### ***Veterans Day***

11 November is Veterans Day. It is not the first Monday in anything. It was originally Armistice Day, the day the Great War (World War I) ended. The armistice was signed on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month ending the War to End all Wars which took the lives of about 20 million people. We remembered that day until World War II, a war which took the lives of about 70 million people, not including the 25 million killed by the Soviets internally. In total, almost 100 million people lost their lives during the period of this war.

Our country has chosen this day, Armistice Day, to honor those who have served our country. This is not the same as Memorial Day, the last weekend in May, during which we honor those who have given their lives for our country.

On this day, we honor those who have and do serve our country: men and women who have stepped forward when their country called; some even before the call. We honor those who have put their country before themselves and families.

Sometimes we forget the sacrifices made by the families. It is one thing to be in combat, forward deployed or on TDY at Christmas. It is another to have your son, daughter, husband, wife, son or daughter gone.

Both of us can tell you from personal experience that it is a lot easier to go to war than to send someone to war.

It is easy to think the country is going to hell, in or out of the proverbial hand basket. Yet, so far we have young people who step forward and fill the breach in the line. How long we know not, but still they come forward. While they come we are safe. When they stop, we fall.

LTC Hap and Captain Dru Arnold, USAF Retired



**Semper Fly!**

*I'd like to get a different point across or announce something*

If you have a different point of view, I would be happy to give you room to get your point across. While this publication is my perspective on events, I recognize not everyone may agree and that some people would like to express their own opinion. If you want to write something, please forward your item to Hap (with a note as to whether or not you would like editing help) to: [hap@faithfulcenturion.org](mailto:hap@faithfulcenturion.org).

*Epistleers*

We post the list of Epistle Readers in the Sunday Report each week so you can either plan your attendance or your pre-reading as the spirit so moves you.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reader</b>
20 November 2011	Ryan Hopkins
27 November 2011	Ryan Hopkins
4 December 2011	Ryan Hopkins

*The near future, as well as Next Sunday*

20 November 2011 –Sunday next before Advent– Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

27 November 2011 – First Sunday in Advent – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

4 December 2011 – Second Sunday in Advent – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

11 December 2011 – Second Sunday in Advent – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

18 December 2011 – Third Sunday in Advent – Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

25 December 2011 – Christmas Day – Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**