



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church

Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday Report



Today was the Third Sunday in Lent. Sunrise temperature on Mount Olympus was a cool 34°F under the bright blue skies of a Santa Ana wind¹. By the time church ended, the temperature had climbed to 72°F, not bad for March considering we had snow on Tuesday and Wednesday. The nice weather brought four people to church.

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.

We try to pick our gathering songs to have a wonderful message, be easy to sing and suitable for guitar accompaniment. *Amazing Grace* is one of Hap's absolute favorites.



¹ Santa Ana winds are what we call it here in Southern California when the usual onshore breeze is replaced by a wind from the East. If it is Northeast, it is cold (by our standards) and if it is directly East, it is warm. The temperature is nice, the wind irritating.

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. 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 128-130, with the Collect first:

The Third Sunday in Lent.

The Collect.

WE beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

And due to the rubric, the Collect for the Day is followed by the Collect for Ash Wednesday, which is found on Page 124:

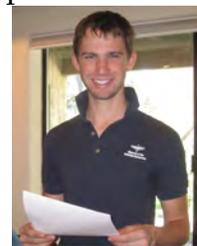
The first day of Lent, commonly called Ash Wednesday.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ This Collect is to be said every day in Lent, after the Collect appointed for the day, until Palm Sunday.

Ryan Hopkins read the Epistle for today, which came from the Fifth Chapter of Paul's letter to the Ephesians beginning at the First Verse. He echoes the advice of St. James in his general epistle to be Christians, not just claim to be followers of Christ, when James wrote, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."



BE ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

Deacon Striker Jack Arnold read this morning's Gospel which comes from the Eleventh Chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke beginning at the Fourteenth Verse.

JESUS was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered. But some of them said, He casteth out devils through Beelzebub the chief of the devils. And others, tempting him, sought of him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a house divided against a house falleth. If Satan also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye say that I cast out devils through Beelzebub. And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your sons cast them out? therefore shall they be your judges. But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you. When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: but when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth. When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out. And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. And it came to pass, as he spake these things, a certain woman of the company lifted up her voice, and said unto him, Blessed is the womb that bare thee, and the paps which thou hast sucked. But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.



Sermon – Time and Action

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

Consider these words from the Collect:

... look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies ...

In the Collect, we ask God look in to our hearts, see our desire to be His children and defend us against evil.

Today's Epistle and Gospel share the same theme. You must walk the talk.

Thus, when Paul tell us to live our lives as we represent our desires to God, he tells us to make our actions match out stated desires. Actions!

Think about the Gospel.

It is very important to be unified in our worship and mutual support; a team always beats individuals. That is not to take away from individuality, but rather to note that we need to remember whose side we are on and work together with our team mates.

There are two phrases particularly worth remembering, "a house divided against a house falleth" and "He that is not with me is against me." Middle ground exists, but it is quicksand. Any feeling of safety there is illusory. We must take sides. And, we cannot keep with those who oppose the side we choose. We must decide who we will follow.

You must keep constant vigilance against backsliding, for a fallen Christian is in worse shape than one who was never exposed to The Word. The Epistle and Gospel both talk about the curious dichotomy; you are saved by faith, your faith alone saves you, not what you do; yet if you have faith, you must act on that faith.

When you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and repent of the sin of your former life, you are forgiven of your sins. But, you must understand, this is not a signal to keep on sinning and keep on saying you repent.

Rather your acceptance of Jesus Christ as your savior and your repentance is the beginning of your life as a New Man in Jesus.

Will you slip? Without doubt. But, when you do, will you again repent and continue to do your best to follow the Word of God, the Light and the Truth? Indeed, if you are a Christian that is what you must do. You are called to believe and act on those beliefs to the best of your ability. If you do not, then prepared as you were for life, you will so be prepared for the pit. As you read Luke, remember the second half of the Book of Luke is The ACTS of the Apostles, not thoughts, wishes, prayers or meditations.

For, "blessed are they that hear the word of God, and **keep it.**"

ACT

It is by our actions we are known.

Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sunday Sermon

As is oft the case, we are honored to present Bishop Dennis' Sunday sermon presented to his parish. Dennis has an excellent command of scripture and is able to present it in a manner which is completely understandable to the rest of us. This year's sermons are being drawn from the book of Psalms, or, as it is known by Anglicans, "*The Psalter*" which begins on page 343 of the Book of Common Prayer. But, today he moved to drawing the propers together in a far different sermon than Hap's and adding in the psalm for this Sunday, Psalm 34. We think you will really enjoy it!



Our Gracious Lord

Ephesians 5:1-14, Luke 11:14-28, Psalm 34
Third Sunday in Lent
11 March 2012

BLESSED Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.²

Psalm 34. *Benedicam Dominum.*

I WILL always give thanks unto the Lord; * his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
2 My soul shall make her boast in the Lord; * the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.
3 O praise the Lord with me, * and let us magnify his Name together.
4 I sought the Lord, and he heard me; * yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.
5 They had an eye unto him, and were lightened; * and their faces were not ashamed.
6 Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him; * yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.
7 The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear him, * and delivereth them.
8 O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is: * blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
9 O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints; * for they that fear him lack nothing.
10 The lions do lack, and suffer hunger; * but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good. 11 Come, ye children, and hearken unto me; * I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
12 What man is he that lusteth to live, * and would fain see good days?
13 Keep thy tongue from evil, * and thy lips, that they speak no guile.
14 Eschew evil, and do good; * seek peace, and ensue it. 15 The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, * and his ears are open unto their prayers.
16 The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil, * to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
17 The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them, * and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

² Collect for the Second Sunday in Advent, BCP Page 92

18 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart, * and will save such as be of an humble spirit.

19 Great are the troubles of the righteous;* but the Lord delivereth him out of all.

20 He keepeth all his bones, * so that not one of them is broken.

21 But misfortune shall slay the ungodly;* and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.

22 The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants; * and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.

The emphasis of the Third Sunday in Lent is God our defender. We see this in the Collect for the day, which asks God to defend us from our enemies. Ephesians 5 shows many of our enemies, meaning the sins that place us under the wrath of God and kill the soul. Luke 11 shows our great enemy the devil, who holds the ungodly in prison in his house. He is the strong man armed, but Christ is the One who is stronger than the devil, who conquers the devil and releases his captives. Psalm 34 is about God's defense of David when he was forced to seek safety in Philistia.

Psalm 34 is a preacher's dream because God has done all the work. All the preacher has to do is follow the outline God has provided. That outline has two major points, which can be stated clearly and grasped quickly. First, God is worthy of our worship. Second, God blesses those who seek Him, while those who reject Him reap desolation of the soul.

So let's talk about how God is worthy of our worship. The Psalm begins with a joyful statement of praise to God. "I will always give thanks unto the Lord; his praise shall ever be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord." When David wrote this Psalm he had already been anointed to become the king of Israel. Yet Saul, the reigning king hated David and sought to kill him. So David had to flee for his life and he sought refuge in the land of one of Israel's most malevolent enemies, the Philistines. The king of the Philistines would have killed David, but David pretended to be crazy, so, instead of killing him, the Philistines just sent him away. In this Psalm David is rejoicing and giving thanks to God for delivering him out of the hands the kings of Israel and Philistia. But the Psalm rises above the blessings of one man to express the gratitude of all who recognize the grace of God in their lives. Instead of the specific circumstances of David, the Psalm talks about the grace of God to all His people, and invites us to join together in His love and worship. "O praise the Lord with me, and let us magnify his Name together."

Why would anyone want to "magnify," or, worship, God? First, understand that by "worship" I do not merely refer to the things we do together in church on Sunday. What we do here is important. It is so vitally important that a person who habitually neglects worshiping in a Biblical church on the Lord's Day has strong reason to seriously doubt the validity of his faith. We are not to forsake the assembling, the meetings of the Church for worship, commands Hebrews 10:25. Knowing this we think of our Lord's words in John 14:15, "If ye love me, keep my commandments," and the even more direct statement in John 14:21, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me."

By worship I mean more than daily prayer and Bible reading. Encouraging daily private and family worship is very important to me. It is my goal to have every member of our parish joining our fellow Anglicans around the world, and many who aren't

Anglicans worshiping daily in the Prayers and the Scriptures. We Anglicans are blessed to have the Lectionary of daily Bible readings and the services of Morning and Evening Prayer, and I rejoice that many of you are already partaking of these blessings. I rejoice because I know that, by them, your souls are fed daily by the word of God; your knowledge and understanding of the Bible is increasing; and you are being shaped in your innermost being by the things of God. You are being built up and strengthened in Christ, and God, who is worthy of all love and worship, is being honoured in your life and home. But worship is bigger than this. The worship of which I speak is a total life orientation that brings all of life together under the Lordship of Christ and does all things to the glory of God. It is this kind of worship David invites us to in this Psalm. And our reason for worship is the goodness of God given unto us. For example, He hears our prayers. "I sought the Lord and he heard me." "Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him." "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them." It ought to shock us to hear that the One who upholds Heaven and earth, who created all things for His glory, cares about you, so much that He is willing to give you His attention, and hear your prayers. And He acts on your behalf. He answers prayer. "He delivered me out of all my fear." "They who fear him lack nothing." "They who seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good." "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart, and will save such as be of an humble spirit." There are many reasons to worship God, but these are certainly among the best.

The second point of this Psalm is the contrast between the worldly and eternal situations of those who worship God, and those who don't. Let's look at those who don't first. Two verses express their fate. They are short, but they speak volumes. Verse 16 says, "The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil, to root out the remembrance of them from the earth." We have all seen weeds in gardens and lawns, and we all know people who spend much time and energy rooting them out. Picture their efforts, and see God doing the same to rid His creation of those who do evil. God is digging down into the earth and pulling out the wicked by their roots. That is the meaning of this verse.

Then, verse 21 tells us, "misfortune shall slay the ungodly." Misfortune refers to the natural forces of life. Sickness, guilt, grief, loss, loneliness, sorrow, and the natural wear and tear on the body brought about by ungodly living will accompany them throughout this life, and finally bring them to an end. It would be bad enough if that were all, but the Bible talks about an eternal living death; an eternal existence in a place of everlasting suffering, a place where all the problems and natural consequences of life are multiplied and suffered forever. It is to dwell in a place where you keep on sinning and keep on reaping sin's bitter fruit.

Now let us turn to the condition of those who seek God. I am compelled to say at the start, that seeking God means seeking God His way, which means according to His revelation and teaching in the Bible. There are many ways to seek God, but only one way to find Him. In fact, finding Him means to give up on all your own ideas and attempts to find and define God, and to accept His Way. Those who do this are the ones of whom the Bible speaks when it says, "seek and ye shall find."

One of my favorite verses in the Psalms is Psalm 19:11, "in keeping of them there is great reward." It refers to the law of God as the revelation of the way to live a harmonious, peaceful, and happy life. The harmonious, peaceful and happy life is simply the result of living life God's way. I know we live in a fallen world and people

hurt us, economies go bust, illness strikes us, and death stalks us every day. Even this Psalm recognizes that troubles come to us. It was persecution, not justice, that forced David to flee for his life. Many things are beyond our control and we just have to trust God with them. But if we put what we can control under the Lordship of Christ, we find that the more closely we approximate life by His commandments, the better life is, and the further we get away from them the worse life is. That is the point being made in Psalm 34:12, if you want to live and see good days, if you want to live in a way that brings rewards and joys and avoids many of life's heartaches and sorrows, live for God. Keep your tongue from evil. Let your words build people up rather than cut them down. Speak truth instead of lies. Put away evil and do good. Wage peace. This kind of life is its own reward.

But God is not merely helping us get through this world. God is using this world to prepare us for Heaven. Thus verse 21 says, "The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants." There is a land that is far more glorious than we can imagine. It is so glorious even the Bible can only describe it in images like streets of gold and a house full of mansions. But the Bible doesn't have to use images to tell us we are going there, if we are Christ's in Biblical faith. "I go to prepare a place for you," our Lord said in John 14, and, "if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself that where I am there ye may be also." This is what God is about in the lives of His people. This is what God wants for you. This is what He gives to all who "truly repent and unfeignedly believe His holy Gospel." Truly the Lord is gracious, and "blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

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+Dennis Campbell

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New Nametags

We had no new nametags today.

After Church Hospitality

Today we had no snacks as Jack decided we were on a low carb regime. So, right after church the entire congregation went to Fred's in the next village down the hill for low carb hamburgers, hold the fries, cancel the malt! Maybe next week the fatted dog nut! I keep hoping!

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
18 March 2012	Jack Arnold – Lent 04
25 March 2012	Opportunity Available – Lent 05
1 April 2012	Opportunity Available – Palm Sunday
8 April 2012	Opportunity Available – Easter Sunday
15 April 2012	Opportunity Available – First Sunday after Easter
22 April 2012	Opportunity Available – Second Sunday after Easter
29 April 2012	Opportunity Available – Third Sunday after Easter

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 least 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 or Dru - 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 18 months. 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. Things seem to be going well where the sun rises on the United States, so keep praying! Give thanks and ask for continued good developments.

Birthday

Dru Arnold celebrated her 57th birthday 2 February 2012. It should be noted while it was sunny, when she went outside first thing in the morning, she did not see her shadow; thus there will not be six more weeks of winter.

Homebound or Infirm

Sara's mother is in a state of deteriorating health, both physically and mentally. On 30 January 2012, she broke her hip and had a partial hip replacement. Please pray for a rapid recovery for her, as well as 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

Claranell passed away the morning of 16 February 2012, after a stroke on top of her pre-existing heart problems. Please give thanks for her life here and pray for peace of mind and trust in God for her family who remain behind.

Hal Campbell (Lew and Dotty's Son In Law see below) passed away on 7 February 2012 at the Seattle Veteran's Hospital as the result of a head injury apparently sustained in a fall in his room there. Please pray for his wife Kathy and their two sons as they deal with the loss of their husband and father..

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

Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) got a blood clot, which affected two of her fingers. She underwent an angiogram on Friday and we are awaiting word. Please pray for a positive outcome and peace of mind for Mrs. Hay and her family. Give thanks for her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude

Greg Chase has kidney stones and asks that you pray for them to pass quickly.

Izaiah Urista (4) has a brain tumor. He was playing with his older sister, Jade, at McDonald's when she noticed he wasn't using his right side to climb, etc. Jade took her brother to their mother after which they realized he couldn't lift his arm. They took him to the hospital where it was discovered he has a brain tumor. He will undergo about 18 months of chemo to see if the tumor will shrink. At this point they do not think they can do anything else for him. Please pray for strength and guidance for Izaiah and his entire family, as well as provide guidance for medical treatment team.

James L. Cavanah had surgery the afternoon of 10 February 2012, to remove two small but cancerous tumors. James is a minister with the AOC in Savannah, Georgia. Please pray for his recovery and remission from the cancer. Give thanks for the surgery and pray for both him and his family to allow God to carry their worries while he recovers.

Ron Bergman underwent his first cataract surgery on 6 February 2012, and his second on 13 February 2012, both went very well. Give thanks for the great result and pray for internal pressure to continue downward.

Ruby June Hauf, now 8 month old daughter of Jerod and Amy (grandson of Lew and Dotty Valkenaar) had a large growth on her liver. Surgery on 16 January 2012 resulted in the removal of a large tumor surrounding one kidney and is recovering well. She and her family are awaiting a decision on chemotherapy. Lew and Dotty ask that you continue to pray for God's help in healing and appreciate all who have done so. Lew will report again once the decision on further treatment is made. Please give thanks for the apparently successful result, a quick recovery and peace of mind for her family.

Bashir Ahmed, father of Shamim Gray, fell whilst getting out of bed, and gashed his head badly. He has been admitted to the Mayday University Hospital, Croydon, UK. The CAT scan revealed no serious damage, however doctors diagnosed him as having pneumonia, and also a heart defect, which they only just found. Please pray for the medical team treating Bashir and for trust in God and peace of mind for Bashir and his loving wife, who cares for him. Pray also for their two young nieces living with them who see no real need to help, that God might enter their hearts. Above all, pray for his entire family to open their hearts to accept all God's love will bring them.

Bill Aitken had a third abdominal surgery on 22 November 2011. This time the tumor was removed. The surgeon said pathology indicates the tumor with all margins out, along with a few lymph nodes and fatty tissue. The tumor is an intermediary (risk) sarcoma, but should not come back. There is a new chemotherapy pill Bill can take for extra precaution; he recommends Bill see an oncologist. Bill has an appointment on 13 December 2011, with the surgeon for follow-up and recommendations going forward. Please give thanks for the surgical team doing their very best, a successful surgery and pray for a good end result. Please pray that Bill might live a long and healthy life to the honor and glory of God. Pray also for peace of mind for Bill and his wife Sara.

Gil Garcia is back in the VA hospital trying to get a grip on his skin. Give him a call at (909) 499-3665. Please pray for peace of mind for Gil and his wife Mary.

Dotty Valkenaar appears to have completely eliminated the reoccurrence of breast cancer with surgery and pills. She is going to have surgery for a shoulder ligament problem on 28 February 2012. Please pray for continued recovery and 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. All is going well and he should be done with blood thinning later this spring.

Morris Martin, 91, has had multiple bouts of pneumonia and lost his ability to swallow; he is still trying to regain his ability to swallow. He has a great attitude and trust in God. What he needs is strength. 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 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 is set up for bone scans at the end of December. Please pray for a good outcome. 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!

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.

Vince (age 15), reoccurrence of Osteosarcoma, 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.

Guidance

Sara asks that you pray for guidance for her as she deals with the stresses of her family and life. Pray that she can separate those things which she can affect from those things which she cannot and give her grace to accept that she cannot do everything and can only change those things within her control.

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

Hap and *Ryan* both ask you to pray 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, sleep well to be able to do the correct things with a clear head and that they will open their hearts to the Holy Ghost.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (Kadena AB, Japan), Jordan (USMC – 29 Palms), 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

Bishop Jerry and Betty Hoffman both give thanks for safe travel.

Jim Thornell gives thanks for a great recovery from gall bladder surgery on 10 January 2012. Give thanks for his trust in God.

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.

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.

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.

Date	Reader
18 March 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Lent 04
25 March 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Lent 05
1 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Palm Sunday
8 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Easter Sunday
15 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – First Sunday after Easter
22 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Second Sunday after Easter
29 April 2012	Ryan Hopkins – Third Sunday after Easter

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

18 March 2012 – Fourth Sunday in Lent – 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 March 2012 – Fifth Sunday in Lent – 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**

1 April 2012 – Palm Sunday – 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**

8 April 2012 – Easter Sunday – Holy Communion – Mite Box Collection – What will we have? 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**

15 April 2012 – First Sunday After Easter – 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**

22 April 2012 – Second Sunday After Easter – 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**

29 April 2012 – Third Sunday After Easter – 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**