



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church

# Second Sunday after Trinity

## Fathers Day

Sunday Report



Today was the Second Sunday after Trinity Sunday. Summer is here, sunrise temperature on Mount Olympus was 58°F, by the time church ended the mercury had climbed to 88°F, all under bright blue and clear skies. We ended up with 3 people present for the service.

### *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* seems to be the parish favorite, as well as Hap's. An excellent choice for Fathers Day

### *Fathers Day*

Today we prayed for our fathers, those who are with us and those who have gone before us and brought us to this point in our lives.



Fathers Day is a day we celebrate the role of fathers in our lives. It is normally a day of joy and congratulations. But, it is more than that, it is a reminder of what a father's role should be. A father is to be the spiritual head of the family, a provider of both spiritual and earthly needs, the protector, commander, president, judge and most of all - the leader. To lead, you must be ahead of those you lead. Lead means, follow me; not, head that way. A father must live his life for his family. The role comes with privileges, but the privileges are granted only to those who fulfill the responsibilities. Those responsibilities are awesome, but the rewards incredible. Yet, as a father, I assure you, in the words of Paul, we all fall short. But that does not mean we should give up, but rather we must redouble our efforts.

I share with you a poem in my Fathers Day card. I can tell you I have fallen short, but it is clear from the card what I must do in the coming year:

### **Only A Dad**

Edgar A. Guest<sup>1</sup>

Only a dad with a tired face,  
Coming home from the daily race,  
Bringing little of gold or fame  
To show how well he has played the game;  
But glad in his heart that his own rejoice  
To see him come and to hear his voice.

Only a dad with a brood of four,  
One of ten million men or more  
Plodding along in the daily strife,  
Bearing the whips and the scorns of life,  
With never a whimper of pain or hate,  
For the sake of those who at home await.

Only a dad, neither rich nor proud,  
Merely one of the surging crowd,  
Toiling, striving from day to day,  
Facing whatever may come his way,  
Silent whenever the harsh condemn,  
And bearing it all for the love of them.

Only a dad but he gives his all,  
To smooth the way for his children small,  
Doing with courage stern and grim  
The deeds that his father did for him.  
This is the line that for him I pen:  
Only a dad, but the best of men.

From the book "A Heap o' Livin'" ©1916

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<sup>1</sup> Edgar A. Guest – 20 August 1881 – 5 August 1959

Born in Birmingham, England. He and his family moved to the United States in 1891. He worked at the Detroit Free Press in Detroit, Michigan. He started there as a copy boy then as a reporter. He had a radio show and a television series. Guest has written 11,000 poems. His sentimental and optimistic poetry are inspiring and enjoyable to read.

When we remember our fathers, we remember not only those who brought us into this world, but also those who have gone before. We stand here in the present only on the shoulders of those whose actions and leadership got us here. As fathers we know we are not perfect, nor were our fathers, nor theirs. For the sins *of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.* Exodus 34.7 We need be mindful of that when we live our lives. We serve as a model for our children and grandchildren, as well as others who see our lives. Living as a father gives one greater tolerance for the errors of their fathers and an appreciation for the pressure they were under. One can only marvel at the job they did.

**M**AY God grant each father the strength to live their life in a manner consistent with our duty as a father, husband, brother; and to fulfill the promise we made to God and Family when we accepted the role as a father. We, each of, us fall short, but ask God God's help to meet the challenge, in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
*Amen*

## God • Honor • Country • Family

### *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 188-190, with the Collect first:

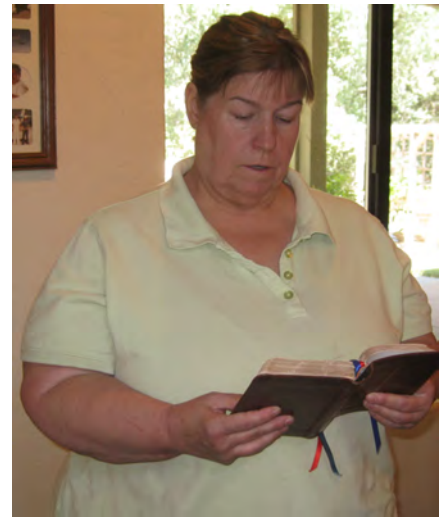
### **Second Sunday after Trinity.**

*The Collect.*

**O** LORD, who never failest to help and govern those whom thou dost bring up in thy stedfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Dru Arnold read today's Epistle, which came from the Third Chapter of St. John's First Epistle, beginning at the Thirteenth Verse.

**M**ARVEL not, my brethren, if the world hate you. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.



John gave us God's commandment: That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another. We are exhorted to love one another not in word only, but in deed and in truth. We are to carry out the word we have been given, not just to repeat the words.

Actions speak louder than words. If we are to lead people to Christ, we must be in front of them showing the way.

Deacon Striker Jack Arnold read today's Holy Gospel which started in the Fourteenth Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the Sixteenth Verse. This is another of Jesus' stories. This one is of a rich man who made a great supper; a thing of great value in times of hunger.

**A**CERTAIN man made a great supper, and bade many: and sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. So



that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, that none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

Are we like the busy people, are our lives so filled with important activities that we have no time to come to the Lord's Supper? Think about that when you set your bedtime on Saturday, think about that when you schedule the outing for Sunday morning.

### *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:

... who never failest to help and govern those whom thou dost bring up in thy stedfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name...

We must acknowledge God will help and lead us if we will look to him for that help and leadership. We need His Help, in the form of the Holy Ghost, to direct our hearts, minds and souls to look to Him for that Help in our time of need.

Speaking of time of need; when do we need God? Only when we are falling short of perfection. That would be all the time.

The Epistle is a great illustration of why we need guidance from the Holy Ghost all the time. If we want God's love, we have to love those around us. That is pretty easy. It is easy to love people. The problem is that we actually have to act on that claim of love, not just say we love them. We have to give of our time and effort to help those around us who have problems. John tell us "And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us."

So how far do we have to go to fulfill our obligation to love our fellow beings? We have a leader, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is *not only* the Propitiation for our sins<sup>2</sup>, but who set the standard for our performance. As John reminds us, "He laid down his life for us." So, too much work or I don't have time are probably not valid excuses.

Speaking of time, many times people put off church for other "more important" things,

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<sup>2</sup> *Book of Common Prayer, the Comfortable Words, Page 76*

do you? Like the certain man who made a great supper, the Lord sets aside a time every week for us to worship with Him. Actually His time is pretty flexible. The Lord's worship can be done at times other than 1000 on Sunday morning if you really do have to work, you have weekend duty, you are on alert or something you really cannot get out of. But, where are your priorities? Is a football game, a fishing trip or just plain sleeping in the "reason" for your failing to show for the great supper? When you fail to plan ahead, you plan to fail.

The Gospel is about more than just going to church, it is about priorities. We need to put the things that are really important in the list of things to do above the things that are not really important. We need to think about what is important to us and to God. Sometimes they are different. Then, we need the Holy Ghost to get our priorities in order.

People do what is important to them. When they feel guilty they come up with excuses, but in reality, they please themselves.

So, what we need to do is ask the Holy Ghost for help to make God's agenda ours; thus when we please God, we please ourselves. A win – win situation.

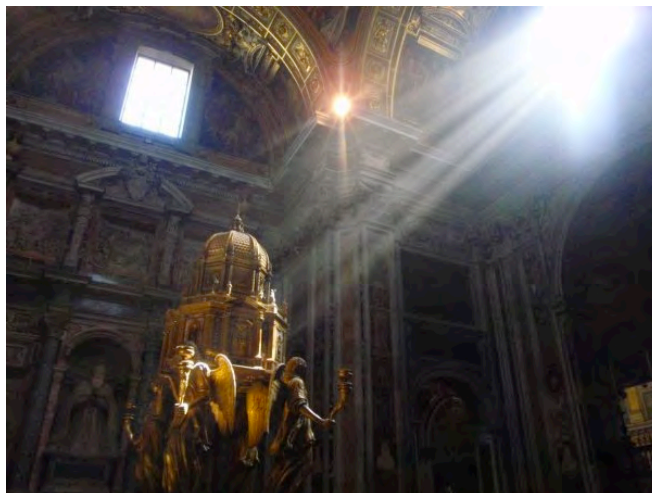
If we do not make time for God, how do we expect Him to make time for us? If we will not diligently study the lessons He has left for us, how can we expect to know what He wants us to do?

Do you recall the words of GK Chesterton:

"Christianity has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and not tried."

We need to come to church and read the Bible so we can find out what God wants. But, the idea is not to find out what He wants so we can work around it or live with it, but rather live in it. Think about the 613 Mosaic laws and the Pharisees who made a good living telling people how to comply with them to the letter and still do just what they wanted to do.

If we find out what God wants and decide to actually do it instead of avoid it, we are still faced with an often huge problem of where do we get the strength to accomplish this task. The answer is circular, from God, the Holy Ghost. He never asks us to do anything we cannot do good enough for Him if we rely on Him. Never.



## *Bishop Ogles' Sermon*

We are off fortunate to get copies of Bishop Jerry's sermon notes. Today is one of those Sundays. Today's sermon starts off with the collect. It will give you a lot to consider in your heart.

### **Sermon Notes**

**Second Sunday after Trinity  
17 June 2012 Anno Domini**

#### **Second Sunday after Trinity.**

*The Collect.*

**O** LORD, who never failest to help and govern those whom thou dost bring up in thy stedfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



*15 And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God.*

*16 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: 17 And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. 18 And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. 19 And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. 20 And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. 21 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. 22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. 23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. 24 For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper. (Luke 14:15-24)*

This parable of today's text was given at the home of one of the chief Pharisees who had invited Christ to supper. It is doubtless that the invitation was made out of a cordial courtesy, but out of a contemptuous curiosity to learn more of how they might entrap the Son of God.

The comment that precedes the parable is noteworthy of the casual piety with which many regard the means of salvation. *Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God.* The one posing the comment doubtlessly considered himself to be one of those blessed ones who would eat of that Bread in Heaven. Many of us simply assume that we shall be among the number and smugly look around at those whose destiny we may consider in doubt. The comment of Balaam seems to best describe this lot: *Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!* (Num 23:10)

The statement, of course, is a profound truth, but the way in which it is viewed from the personal perspective may be profoundly in error. Instead of concerning ourselves about our **PRESENT** righteousness, we are too focused on the end of the play – how we

shall DIE! We must not occupy our time with undue emphasis on End of Time matters, but rather with those issues of life itself. In order to walk from Jerusalem to Damascus, we must take EVERY step in between. Every step is as important as the last for, if one be missing, we shall not reach Damascus.

**16 Then said he unto him, *A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:*** God is the `certain man'. The Great Supper is Heaven itself. Those `many' invited are the fullness of the Will of God for those to fill His Heaven at last. We do not know the number, but God certainly has a fixed knowledge of it. God has invited a great many to that Supper. Though an invitation may be received, it will benefit the recipient nothing at all if he fails to respond to the invitation. ("many are called but few are chosen" Matt 20:16)

Certainly, if you hear these words and have read the Gospel, the invitation has been extended to you. But what will you do in response to the invitation? Are you presently too busy to come? Have you properties to look after that forbids your coming? Are the trifling concerns of the world preventing you? Compared to the salvation of your soul, every other consideration is trifling.

**17 *And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.*** Jesus is speaking to the Jewish guests who have early been invited to the Great Supper. They have not yet, at this point in His ministry, rejected Him officially. Those hereditary descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – not because of bloodline and DNA, but because of geographic affinity – have been invited first to the Great Supper. "All things are made ready" in the great I AM – the Gift has been presented in the coming of Christ, the life of love and labor has been completed, the sacrifice of the Great Passover has been killed, and the first fruits of God in the Resurrection fulfilled. All is ready at great expense of the "Certain Man" who has extended the invitation. He is speaking, first, to those who have already received the invitation.

**18 *And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.*** Not a few, but ALL began to make excuse with one consent. It brings the fearful image to mind of all the Jews gathered on the paddock outside the balcony of Pontius Pilate screaming Crucify Him! Crucify Him! "*His blood be upon us and our children.*" (Matt 27:25) ...and so it has been, and is today. Of what worth is a piece of ground which belongs to a dying world whose coming fiery death is a stark reality of prophecy? The surgeon has scheduled you for an appointment for surgery to remove a cancer that will certainly kill you soon if not removed. Afterwards, he is leaving for Africa for many months. What happens if you miss the appointment? Will an acre of ground loom more importantly to you than the life-saving surgery?

**19 *And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.* 20 *And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.*** Certainly, oxen may be more important to the depraved of faith than coming to the Great Supper in Heaven. How can one night of nuptial bliss surpass the eternal joys of heaven. Did not God give the oxen, the land, the wife? Yet, we have no time for HIM! What is it truly that prevents inquiring men and women from coming all the way to Christ? It is the deceitfulness of riches: *He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.* (Matt 13:22) Remember the shipis like the Church. It is made for the sea just as the church is made to be in the world. But



when the sea begins to get into the ship, and the world into the church, the resulting ship wreck will be tragic. Those who simply do not desire to serve will always have SOME excuse to delay. The longer the delay, the greater the thorns that choke away the remaining life until...it is too late!

Bear in mind that we do not discuss any ordinary invitation – it is issued by the King of all Kings. Is it wise to refuse? **21 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.** The purpose of God in bringing the full number of His Elect into the Kingdom will not be abrogated by the small wills and weaknesses of men. He will fill His Supper with those who respond in earnest to His invitation. – even if He must enlarge the list of those invited. So here, in accordance with His foreknowledge and providence from the beginning, He sends for those who will genuinely respond, outside those first invited: the poor, the crippled, the suffering, and the blind. We all may easily fit into this last category. Before we knew Christ, we were absolutely blind. ***Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?*** (John 7:48)

**22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.** The angels have expanded the list, yet still there remains room for others. Thank God that there does remain room for others, for those others are those who read, and the one who writes, these sermon notes. The maimed, the poor, the halt, and the blind have responded to the invitation ahead of those prominent ones who were privileged to come and have rejected the invitation. There is STILL room – even today!

**23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.** God sends His ministers into the four quarters of the earth seeking those who will respond to His gracious invitation. God will have His House filled with those who desire Heaven more than the riches of this world...not half-full, but wholly full with His predetermined number. The net is cast in the darkest depths of the sea where hope was forlorn and depravity beyond measure. The Gospel will go out to the heathen and the Gentiles. In fact, all of the Household of Israel – those who are Children of the Promise in Abraham. These does not require a blood heritage except the blood of Christ. It is doubtless that the Pharisees gathered around Christ understood fully His parable and were enraged by it. How could those vulgar Gentiles be placed ahead of them in gaining the privilege of Heaven? How, indeed? By faith!

**24 For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.** Heaven will not be a home-delivery proposition. IN order to taste of its delicacies, we must come to it by way of the Householders Son. He has bought and paid for your invitation with His own Blood. How shall you trample His Blood underfoot by refusing the gracious invitation to come?

Jesus has sealed your invitation with these words: ***Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*** (Matt 11:28-30)

## *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 a great sermon for the Second Sunday after Trinity:



### **God Our Governor**

Psalm 15, 1 John 3:13-24, Luke 14:16-24

Second Sunday after Trinity

17 June 2012

### **Second Sunday after Trinity.**

*The Collect.*

**L**ORD, who never failest to help and govern those whom thou dost bring up in thy stedfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Psalm 15. *Domine, quis habitabit?*

**L**ORD who shall dwell in thy tabernacle? \* or who shall rest upon thy holy hill?  
2 Even he that leadeth an uncorrupt life, \* and doeth the thing which is right, and speaketh the truth from his heart.

3 He that hath used no deceit in his tongue, nor done evil to his neighbour, \* and hath not slandered his neighbour.

4 He that setteth not by himself, but is lowly in his own eyes, \* and maketh much of them that fear the Lord.

5 He that sweareth unto his neighbour, and disappointeth him not, \* though it were to his own hindrance.

6 He that hath not given his money upon usury, \* nor taken reward against the innocent.

7 Whoso doeth these things \* shall never fall.

The Collect for this morning has been prayed by God's people for at least 1500 years, and possibly for more than 1900 years. Its primary request is for God to govern, or, direct His Church, so we will have a perpetual fear and love for Him. In other words, we are asking for steadfastness in reverence and faithfulness. The passage from 1 John 3 reminds us that we cannot claim to be steadfast in love for God if we are not also steadfast in our love for the brethren. The brethren are the Church; that spiritual Temple of the Holy Spirit in which all who are in Christ through Biblical faith are living stones. The passage gives very pointed examples of what it means to love the brethren beginning with the antipathy of the world. If you are at home and comfortable with the world and its ways you are probably not going to be comfortable with the Church. Your interests and values will be different, and you will find the Church and the worship of God boring and out of touch with your life. If you find this to be true in your own life you have cause for great concern about the state of your soul. If you do not love the Church, if you do not love to gather with it in worship, love its fellowship, and share a common life with it, you do not love the brethren, you love the world, and

to love the world is to be at enmity with God.. This is a major point in 1 John 3.

Luke 14 shows that those who reject God's invitation to the supper do not love God. The supper has many layers of meaning. It is first and primarily the forgiveness of sins and restoration to God's fellowship through the cross of Jesus Christ. It is second the eternal bliss of our Heavenly home. Third, it is the fellowship of Christ's Church here on earth. Fourth, it is all the means of grace God has given to feed and strengthen us in Christ during our earthly sojourn of faith. The Bible, the Church, and the Sacraments are some of the means of grace, and the more you invest yourself in them the more steadfast you will become in the fear and love of God.

Psalm 15 continues this theme, asking who shall dwell in the tabernacle of God, and who shall rest in His holy hill. The tabernacle refers to the house of God prior to the building of the Temple. The Tabernacle consisted of curtains and tents where the Holy of Holies and the Altar of God stood. The holy hill is the hill of Zion in Jerusalem where the Tabernacle stood until it was replaced with the Temple. Together they represent the presence of God with His people. To dwell in the Tabernacle, then, is to dwell in God. It does not mean to take up physical residence in the Tabernacle; it does mean to take up spiritual residence in God. Who can do this? Who is able to reside in God? Who are those who are forgiven of their sins? Who are those who are in fellowship with God? In New Testament language, we would say, who are the saved? Who is going to Heaven? That is the question that opens Psalm 15. The answer is given in several statements which we may summarize thusly; they shall dwell in the house of God and they shall rest in His holy place who are steadfast in the fear and love of God.

Clearly the Psalm takes us back to the point of 1 John 13 that our love for God is shown in part by our love for each other, our brothers and sisters in Christ. The Psalm is about our relationships with those who are part of us in the community of God. It is true that the Church is called to do good to those outside its fellowship. It is true that, because we see people as God sees them, as sheep without a Shepherd, and because we are moved with Godly compassion at the sight of hunger and sickness and human need, that we want to help. But we need to always keep in mind that it is not our calling to be the caretakers of the physical needs of the world. Even Christ refused to be reduced to a mere healer or feeder. He could have fed all the hungry in Israel as easily as He fed the five thousand. He could have healed all the sick in Israel as easily as he healed Bartimeus. But He didn't, because that was not His mission. His mission was to bring spiritual food and spiritual healing by His sacrifice on the cross. Our task, as the Church, then, is to proclaim the spiritual food and healing of the soul through faith in Christ. Our task is to invite people to the supper. That is our primary duty to the people of the world.

But in our dealings with people, both inside and outside of the Faith, we are always to conduct ourselves with the utmost propriety. It may not be our task to feed the world, but it is certainly not our task to rob it. Rather, in Christian compassion we abstain from all the harmful things we are warned about in the Ten Commandments. We do not murder, we do not commit adultery, do not steal, deceive, or covet. We live quiet and holy lives before God and before people. Thus we continue steadfast in the fear and love of God.

"O lord, who never failest to help and govern those whom thou dost bring up in thy steadfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech the, under the protection of thy good

providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

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+Dennis Campbell

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### *New Nametags*

We had no new nametags today.

### *After Church Hospitality*

Sadly, no after church snacks. With no fatted dog nut in sight, it was off to the next village for Greek Food. Fatted dog nuts next week! We are hoping between now and next Sunday some invents no-carb dog nuts.

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
24 June 2012	<b>Opportunity Available – Third Sunday after Trinity</b>
1 July 2012	<b>Opportunity Available – Fourth Sunday after Trinity</b>

*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**

*Mona Mukerji* traveled from England to Pakistan recently, in order to commemorate the opening of a church she and her extended family had built in the town of Stunzabad, Pakistan, a very volatile area. Also, Mona's brother was a very, very renowned priest or bishop, in Lahore until he passed away. This family is heavily involved in uplifting Christians in Pakistan; as we know, they have their work cut out for them. God bless them and keep them safe.

### **Move**

*Ryan Hopkins* has moved to Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, to study Dressage Riding through June 2013. Please pray for God's guidance in his life as he works and studies.

*The Thomas Family* is on a short tour assignment in Guam through August 2013. Please pray for the assignment to continue to go well for Kurt and for Mary and the kids to make new friends. In particular pray that Kristyna and Mitchell will develop good friends and school mates there so as to further their development as both Christians and citizens. 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**

*Laurel Bessesen* celebrated her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday on 26 April 2012.

### **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. She is not doing well. 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**

*Alice Berry* passed away 24 May 2012, after a hard fought battle with cancer. Please give thanks for her life here and pray for comfort for her husband Larry and their family who remain behind, pray that they can look to the Lord for comfort

during this very hard time.

### *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*

*Kevin Gerhart* discovered cancer on his neck. This is not believed to be the primary site and his doctors are trying to find the source site. Please pray for the medical team treating Kevin that they might pay attention, do their very best and find the source; that the treatment might be successful and he might live a long and healthy life to His honor and glory. Pray also for trust in God and peace of mind for Kevin, his wife and family.

*Gil Garcia* had surgery at the VA hospital in Long Beach. The surgery was successful, they are predicting a 12 week recovery time. Please pray for a rapid recovery for Gil, as well as peace of mind for Gil, his wife Mary and their family.

*Sylvia Lee*, Sandra Lee's mother, has progressive lumbar stenosis and sciatica, which is causing increasing pain in her back and weakness in her legs. Sylvia has already had mobility issues because of the strokes she had almost 20 years ago. She uses a wheelchair and walker as it is. Various pain pills and injections have not helped, so now it is time for a consultation with a surgeon. If this continues and Sylvia gets to the point where she can't walk or even stand, they will have to face moving out of the house they've lived in for 45 years. Please pray for strength, healing and easing of pain for Sylvia and her family's continued faith and in God as the Great Physician. They pray for help to listen to God's voice and guidance through this journey together.

*Sara Simmons* sustained a fractured right knee as the result of a fall on a slate patio. She is now in a leg brace, but is still challenged for mobility. Please pray for patience for Sara and her husband Bill, as well as rapid and complete healing.

*Kay Denton* (Mrs. Kay) got a blood clot, which affected two of her fingers. She underwent an angiogram which seemingly had the desired result and the Eveready Bunny rebounded once again. Please pray a prayer of thanksgiving for the positive outcome and pray for continued peace of mind for Mrs. Kay and her family. Give thanks for her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude

*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.

*Bill Aitken* had a third abdominal surgery on 22 November 2011. This time the tumor was removed. Bill is having difficulty keeping the doctor's instructions, please pray for help for him to do so. Please pray that Bill might turn his heart outward to help those around him, as well as 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.

*Dotty Valkenaar* had successful surgery for a shoulder ligament problem on 28 February 2012. Physical therapy seems to be working, but is painful. 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.

*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. We are very thankful Morris was released home from the nursing home after gaining strength and getting his blood sugar under control. Pray for continued gain of 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 just came back from his what is now every four month bone scan – 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!

*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 has worsened recently. She is no longer able to stand, in fact she has a lot of trouble sitting upright. Judith is depressed and wants to go home to watch her birds, which given everything seems unlikely at present. 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. Her husband is doing his best to take care of her; it is hard and he is learning the best he can. Please pray for further recovery for Becky, as well as strength and guidance for her husband.

*Betty Macauley*, Tim's mom, fell and cracked her hip. The surgeons were able to put a pin in the hip. She made it home after a week of rehabilitation, which is a good sign. She is now walking with the aid of a walker around the house and wheelchair when out side of house. Tim says she is tough and hanging in there, considering she will be 92 in June. Tim will be heading up to see her for a few days in April. Please pray for her rapid recovery and for a good attitude and

most important for trust in God to keep her moving while she is here.

*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.

*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), 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**

*Ryan and David Hopkins* give thanks for safe travel to Dillsburg, Pennsylvania.

### **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](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>
24 June 2012	Dru Arnold – Nativity of St. John Baptist, superseding the Third Sunday after Trinity
1 July 2012	Dru Arnold – Fourth Sunday after Trinity
4 July 2012	Dru Arnold – Independence Day
8 July 2012	Dru Arnold – Fifth Sunday after Trinity
15 July 2012	Dru Arnold – Sixth Sunday after Trinity
22 July 2012	Dru Arnold – Seventh Sunday after Trinity

### *The near future, as well as Next Sunday*

24 June 2012 – Nativity of St. John Baptist superseding the Third Sunday after Trinity – 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 July 2012 – Fourth Sunday after Trinity – 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 July 2012 – Independence Day – 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**

8 July 2012 – Fifth Sunday after Trinity – 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**

15 July 2012 – Sixth Sunday after Trinity – 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**

22 July 2012 – Seventh Sunday after Trinity – 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 July 2012 – Eighth Sunday after Trinity – 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**