



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church



Pentecost

commonly known as

Whitsunday

Sunday Report



Today was Whitsunday, also known as Pentecost. We were about on temperature for this time of year. Sunrise temperature on Mount Olympus was 42°F, by the time church ended the mercury had climbed to 66°F, all under bright blue and clear skies, looking towards a high of 74°F. We ended up with 3 people present for the service.

Gathering Song

Jack Arnold played *Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire* for the gathering song.

Hymn 217 – Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire

Author: Rhabanus Maurus

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire.

Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost Thy sev'nfold gifts impart.

Thy blessèd unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.

Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.

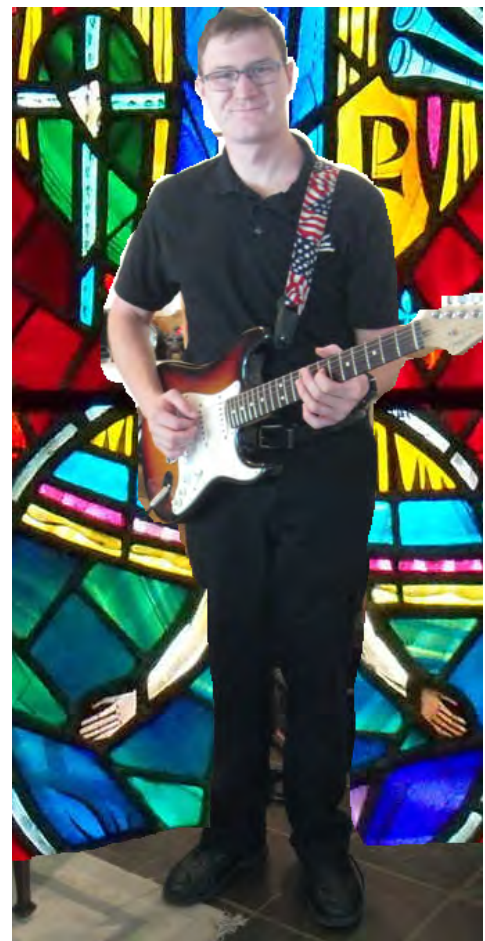
Anoint and cheer our soilèd face
With the abundance of Thy grace.

Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where Thou art Guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And Thee, of both, to be but One,

That through the ages all along
This, this may be our endless song.

Praise to Thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Even though we almost always sing Amazing Grace, that is **not** always. Today is Whitsunday, so we went with Hymn 217. A great hymn, a great message!

Pentecost which is commonly called Whitsunday and the time of Whitsuntide

The octave (8 days) following Whitsunday. In the Book of Common Prayer, the Monday and Tuesday after Whitsunday are Red Letter days, so called because days provided with a proper Collect (prayer), Epistle, and Gospel were marked in the calendar in red ink. "Whitsuntide" (formerly also spelled "Whitsontide") or "Whitsun Week" is derived from Middle English *whitsunday*, from Old English *hwita sunnandæg*, "White Sunday", in reference to the white ceremonial robes formally worn on this day.



Whitsunday marks the Feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles on the 50th day after Easter. It ranks, after Easter, as the second festival of the Church. In the West, the Vigil of Pentecost soon became a secondary date for baptisms, with a ceremony resembling the Paschal Vigil Service. (Pentecost is the Greek name for the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which falls on the 50th day after Passover.) As the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles on this day (Acts 2: 1), the name was applied to the Christian feast celebrating this event, popularly called "Whitsunday".

On Point

Someone asked, where do the quotes come from? The answer is from the people who uttered them. But, how did you find them? Oh, that. Some from Bishop Jerry, others from Rev Bryan Dabney, a few from other places, but mostly from Bryan. He always has a few great ones to share. So, on to the On Point quotes –

So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

Ephesians 5:28

Death is... a return from exile, a going home to the many mansions where the loved ones already dwell. The distance between glorified spirits in heaven and militant saints on earth seems great; but it is not so. We are not far from home— a moment will bring us there... When the eyes close on earth they open in heaven.

Rev. Charles H. Spurgeon
19th century English theologian and author
(Morning and Evening, p. 222).

The world comes in through many doors, and it comes in many forms. Yet at whatever door and in whatever form it comes, the world is always the Devil's servant.

Rev. E. M. Bounds
19th and 20th century American theologian and author
(Guide to Spiritual Warfare, p. 74)

We are at present working discreetly with all our might to wrest this mysterious force called sovereignty out of the clutches of the local nation states of the world.

Dr. Arnold Toynbee
20th century English historian and globalist.

The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help.

Ronald Wilson Reagan
20th century American president.

The principle of spending money to be paid by posterity, under the name of funding, is but swindling futurity on a grand scale.

Thomas Jefferson
18th century American patriot and president.

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 church service is read by an ordained minister.

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 180-182, with the Collect first:

Pentecost, commonly called Whitsunday.

The Collect.

O GOD, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ This Collect is to be said daily throughout Whitsun Week.



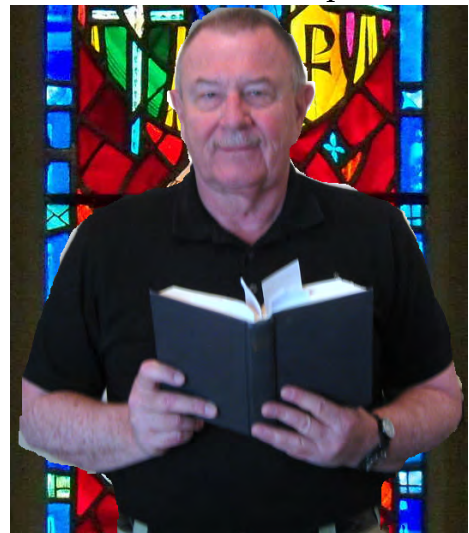
Dru Arnold read this morning's Epistle, which written in the Second Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles beginning at the First Verse, which consisted primarily of a listing of all the countries and regions surrounding Jerusalem, or at least the hardest to pronounce ones, and a description of the actions of the Apostles when the Holy Ghost came upon them. But, you will also notice that the coming of the Holy Ghost demonstrated the universality of The Word, for when they spoke in tongues, The Word spoke to each in their own language. The Word was not some stranger's language, but their very own!



WHEN the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilæans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judæa, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

Hap Arnold read today's Gospel which was written in the Fourteenth Chapter of the Gospel according to Saint John beginning at the Fifteenth Verse:

JESUS said unto his disciples, If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to



him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe. Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me. But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do.

Sermon – Reverend Deacon Jack Arnold - 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:

... sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort ...

When Jesus left on Ascension Day, we lost a teacher here on earth. We still have Him as Redeemer and Savior; but what to do for understanding? In response to His departure, God sent us the Holy Ghost.

Who is this Holy Ghost?

We worship the One True God, a triune God, that is Three in One; Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Most people have no trouble understanding the concept of God the Father, Christians seem to get God the Son, but many seem to have a bit of difficulty with the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Ghost has been there since the beginning. He breathed life into the world, yet His actions seemed to be sporadic until Pentecost.

Well, today is Pentecost, the time one normally thinks of the Holy Ghost, the Holy Spirit, the Breath of God, the Comforter. When people do think of Him, they oft think of the actions described in the words of Saint Luke in the Acts of the Apostles. The dancing and speaking in tongues. All that happened so we might understand that with the help of the Holy Ghost we might bring the Word to all mankind. The Word of God

is a universal language. When the disciples spoke in tongues, the people around them heard the Word in their own language, not an odd combination of sounds that no one understood. The disciples spoke and were heard by those around them in their own language, not Klingon. It is not for us to speak in tongues without study; that was a one shot deal. It was designed to show us that we could, with hard work and persistence bring the Gospel to the world in the language of the people. Which is what the purpose of God sending the Holy Ghost was for, was for us to bring the light of Christ into the world for all to see and believe upon. The Holy Ghost allows us to spread His Word amongst all the people in the world and to convince them and let them believe. It opens our eyes to what is good for us and what is not good for us, so that we know what to believe and what not to believe.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He would be leaving, but the Father would send a facilitator; one who whose presence, if we let Him into our hearts, would let us understand His Word with those self same hearts. The Comforter would bring the Love of God into our hearts to let us feel His Love. He will help us understand that we are striving to be one with God, with Jesus and with the Holy Ghost. Our love can be demonstrated by our actions. Which are only possible if we allow the Holy Ghost into our hearts and believe and Act upon our faith! For if we love Jesus, we will do as He asked.

If you think about it, you will recall that the second half of the Book of Luke is titled The Acts of the Apostles. It is not the thoughts, the beliefs, the feelings, the meditations, the inner feelings or any other touchy feely, it is the ACTS. If you believe, act on those beliefs.

We need the help of the Holy Ghost to learn what we are to do, how we are to do it and most of all to do it. Action, not just diction.

Pray for His continual presence in your heart.

Heaven is at the end of an uphill trail. The easy downhill trail does not lead to the summit.

The time is now, not tomorrow. The time has come, indeed. How will you ACT?

It is by our actions we are known.

Be of God - Live of God - Act of God



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, and like always, it will give you a lot to consider in your heart.

Sermon Notes

Pentecost – commonly called Whitsunday
in Old English - White Sunnendaeg
Seventh Sunday after Easter
19 May 2013, Anno Domini

Pentecost, commonly called Whitsunday.

The Collect.

O GOD, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*



1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. 7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. (Acts 2:1-11)

Our Collect today makes reference to the Holy Spirit as a Light and a Teacher. It is the same Light and Teacher which Christ was to us in His earthly ministry. It is the same because it is not in God's nature to present us with contradictory teachings. All that the Holy spirit reveals to us is simply that which Jesus Christ has also revealed so clearly in His Word. The ministry of Christ was limited to the physical grounds of Judea, Samaria, Galilee and the adjacent environs. However, Christ promised to send to us an encourager and a Comforter to be with us always and to open our eyes to the deep mysteries of God as revealed BY and IN His Word.

The Holy Ghost will not speak a new or different Gospel, but opens our hearts and minds to the Gospel already preached – and lived – by our Lord Jesus Christ. You will remember that Christ did not preach a Gospel message that varied from that of His Father. When Philip inquired of Jesus to be shown the Father, Jesus responded: ***9 Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen***

me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? 10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself; but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. (John 14:9-10) Jesus did not bring an INDIVIDUAL message, but that message dictated by the One, Triune God which includes the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

Now our Lord has sent to His people the Holy Spirit as a Comforter to open our eyes in the teaching of all that those teachings of the Father which Christ taught, and now which the Holy Ghost teaches. The Holy Ghost is the Compass and Light of God for our hearts. The Holy Ghost does not speak of Himself, but of all that Christ taught us. We have been promised a Presence of God to be always with us.

One of the names of our Lord is Immanuel which means "God with us." (**Immanuel** in Isaiah 7:14) But in fulfillment of the promises and mighty works of God, our Lord must have returned to the Father when His works of salvation were completed. So He promised to send us another Comforter whose spiritual & physical jurisdiction would know no geographical limits. That Comforter is the Holy Ghost.

As we read the Word of God, our loving Teacher stands over our shoulder to open the meaning and truth to us as a bright Light shedding its beams upon our page. *25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.* (John 14:25-26) The Holy Ghost is One with Christ just as Christ is One with the Father – and, in fact, all are One in Purpose, in Truth, in will, and in works.

As I interviewed our pretty little Confirmand yesterday, Maria Bella Rodriguez, I felt the Holy Spirit was with us and was reflected in the sincerity and sweetness of her responses. Bella, in Spanish, means beautiful. Well, Bella is beautiful not only in her features, but in her heart.

Whitsunday (Wit Sunday) is the seventh Sunday after Easter and coincides with the Jewish Day of Pentecost. Pentecost followed fifty days after Passover. As Christ is OUR Passover, we observe Wit-Sunday as our day of Pentecost. Pentecost was the day of the giving of another Teach – the Law – to Moses on Mt Sinai. So Wit-Sunday is for us the Day of the giving of another Teacher to us which is the spirit of Love and Truth. *24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. 26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.* (Gal 3:24-29)

So, are we no longer bound by the Commandments and Law of God? Certainly, we are, but in a different sense. We are now bound by love to keep the Commandments of God as written on our hearts and not on Tables of Stone.

It is the day of fulfillment of the promise of Christ to send us the Comforter – the day of the Coming of the Holy Ghost in His eternal Presence with to the people of God. As Christ suffered death by defeating the same, so does the Holy Ghost bring the so that the Resurrection presence of Christ is with us always in the presence of His Holy Spirit.

After the Crucifixion, Burial, Resurrection, and Ascension of Christ, there

returned a feeling of forlorn loneliness in the hearts of the disciples. They were deeply gratified by the merits of eternal life which Christ had made available through His earthly works, but what now? He was no longer a constant companion to them. God seemed, once again, far away.

As we read in the second chapter of the Book of Acts today, the disciples were gathered expectantly in the Upper Room of the Lord's Supper awaiting the fulfillment of a Mystery and a Promise made known to them by Jesus.

Whatever they expected could not be explained, but they knew now that whatsoever Christ ever said, there was deep and abiding truth in it for them.

If someone had asked, "For what purpose do you wait here this day?" they would not have reason to give except that the Lord has told us to await this day. When they had gathered for the Last Supper with Jesus, there was a calm serenity that pervaded the room, but today, there was even a touch of disorderly confusion. There were men there from all over the known world. They had come to know of Christ and were, too, His disciples. But they all spoke in different languages that caused the gathering to appear almost chaotic as each chatted to his fellow countryman in a language which most others could not understand. So there was a continual buzz of confusion. Yet, they waited. *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.*

- It should be noted that, in spite of the language barrier, all were gathered in One Accord. Their minds were at One with Christ, and therefore with each other. Though they were confused by a lack of understanding of each other's language, yet they agreed in truth. The Holy Spirit of God will not abide division. When the Church does not await and listen for the Voice of the Holy Spirit, He will not come. He waits without.

Suddenly, as they waited, there came a strange and peculiar sound from Heaven. It sounded very much like a mighty Wind – and it was! It was the Wind of God in the form of the Holy Ghost. The coming of the Holy ghost was not in any sense partial or piecemeal – it filled the entire Upper Room. *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.* It should also be noted that when God is working, men are at rest. These men were seated awaiting the Bread and Manna of Heaven just as the 5,000 seated on the mountain slope overlooking the Galilean Sea when Christ miraculously fed them an abundance from a pittance of provision.

There may have even been some dismay and fearful expectation as the Holy Ghost descended. When Christ walks by our side on our Road to Emmaus, we often do not recognize Him. We may even be fearful of His presence as was the disciples that stormy night on the Sea when they saw Christ walking on the waters.

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. These cloven tongues were not actual fire, but appeared like fire over their heads. It was an intense and beautiful moment. Their hearts could no longer sit in silence, and they overflowed with the love of God and His truth. The experience was profound and defied description.

What was the result of this sudden outburst of the Holy Ghost?

Herein lies the miracle of tongues as expressed on the Day of Pentecost: *And*

they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Not only did all speak in other tongues, but, miraculously, they could ALL understand each other. At first, these men were confused at a lack of understanding. Now, they are confused at the miraculous GIFT of understanding.

It was the reverse of confusion and misunderstanding that occurred at the Tower of Babel. These men were not 'babbling' (derivative term from the name Babel) but were speaking in a language that ALL understood in his own tongue. This was an Apostolic gift that was given for the benefit of the early church and the broad propagation of the Gospel over the known world. Would we not immediately recognize such an experience to be a miracle in our own times? Any lost sinner can stand up and utter ridiculous babblings among the congregation, but how can you say 'AMEN' to that which has no meaning? God is not the Author of confusion: *For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.* (1 Cor 14:33)

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. Now this is evidence of the miraculous power of God, is it not? If someone stands speaking in a babbling tongue that no one understands, where is the proof of the miraculous power of God?

Paul tells us: *O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.* (1 Tim 6:20-21) and later, he says: *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness* (2 Tim 2:15-16) Friends, despite the yeoman efforts some false professor make to deceive us on tongues, nothing could be clearer in God's Word than this admonition against confusion.

Please observe how wonderfully was this legitimate employment of the miracle of tongues received by the believers: *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness* (2 Tim 2:15-16)

I once read from the memoirs of the martyred John Stam who was beheaded by the Chinese Communist for his faith and preaching of Christ: A minister of some renown was invited to speak at the Chinese church. He was on his first visit to China and knew not a single word of Chinese language. When he arose, he began speaking in so-called tongues. It did not seem like any language at all to the listener, but only confused their understanding. Suddenly, an old Chinese elder of the church arose and stormed out of the church. One of Stam's co-workers chased out after the faithful old elder to determine his angst. The old chinaman responded, "That man was cursing God in the Chinese language."



Let me encourage every one of us here today to adhere to the known and revealed truth of God as attested by the Holy Ghost. He will not add to God's Word, or detract therefrom, but will open up to our hearts and souls the mysteries revealed in the Word of all that Jesus taught us.

Roy Morales-Kuhn, Pastor - Covenant of Grace Anglican Chapel - Anglican Orthodox Church, USA Sermon for Pentecost (Whitsunday)

Psalms 18:1-20
O.T. Joel 2:28 -32
N.T. Rom. 8:1-11

“...And I will show wonders...”

- 28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:
- 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.
- 30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.
- 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come.
- 32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.



This Sunday is the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit of God. In the earliest days of the church as believers began to come to the Lord and follow his Word, the traditions came along that would give title to the other name for this Sunday. Whitsunday or White-Sunday was so named for the white cloaks new believers wore after Easter. The tradition was new believers spent an entire year learning about their faith, then on Easter Sunday they were baptized into the faith and in celebration they continued wearing their baptism clothing until the Fifth Sunday after Easter or Pentecost Sunday. So the name Whitsunday was in recognition of the newest believers joining Christ church militant. This Sunday was also the day that tradition has set aside as the closest to the event known as the Pentecost or the fiftieth day after the resurrection of Christ. This outpouring of the Holy Spirit had been foretold several times in the Old Testament. The passage we read from Joel is one of the more vivid expressions of this event. All during Christ's ministry he told his disciples that God the Father would provide a comforter, one who would come after Jesus left, one who would guide and keep the believers until Christ came again in his glory.

On this Sunday let us meditate on the meaning of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

1. God will never leave us. He promised to be with us to our end or the end of the ages, which ever came first. He will be here to guide us and to comfort us in all our ways. We must always cling to that belief. He will never leave us or forsake us. This give us the understanding that we can't leave him. If we are truly his, then we can't lose our salvation by walking away, because his promise to never leave us.

- 28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:
29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit..

2. As this passage from Joel points out, he would and did pour out his Spirit on those waiting in Jerusalem. The Holy Spirit now comes upon a person and calls them to repentance, calls them to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. All who are able to be blessed. By including the servants, both male and female, God is telling us that no one is to be left out. We get the clarification of who is included in the last verse, v.32 Another interesting note in the last couple of words...and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.... What does that mean ? There will always be a small number of believers in the sense of the whole of civilization. Today the estimate of those calling themselves Christian in the world or at least identifying themselves as Christian is about 1 billion. Of that number you could take say 25% of those who truly follow Christ. Now before you despair, there has always been a "remnant". Look at how many really followed Moses. How many really followed the words of the various prophets? How many really followed Jesus when he walked this earth? We must ever understand that when one calls on the name of the Lord they shall be delivered. They shall be saved, those who call upon the name of the Lord. Even small in numbers can do mighty works for the Lord. We have God the Father, we have God the Son, we have God the Holy Spirit. Nothing can prevail against the Almighty, nothing. Be of good cheer, if God is for us, who can be against us?

- 32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.
30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.
31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come

Verses 30 and 31 reference the final day, when Jesus comes back in his Glory. With many references to this great event, there is one main detail missing. "No man knows the hour or the day of my coming" Jesus was answering his disciples, who were asking him when the day was that Jesus would come to his kingdom. Jesus gave the indications, he gave some of the signs, but he did not give a specific day or date. We do know, as we were told in the first chapter of Acts, that Jesus who ascended into heaven would in like wise so return to earth. But we are not to sit around pining for his return, we are to be busy about the Lord's work because we do not know our time or season. So we should be diligent about reaching others for Christ, because our time is short on this earth. We are only here for a season.

Let us pray,

LORD Heavenly Father, lead us into your light, illumine our spirit with your Holy Spirit, that in your divine example, through the precious work of Jesus Christ, we also may follow in the same. Guide us, direct us, give us strength every day as we seek to do thy work here in our place. Lord give us peace, the peace that passes

understanding, be with us this week as we go out to the field which are white to harvest. These things we ask for the honor and Glory of your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen*

MAY the Peace of God, that passes all understanding, be given unto you. Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us. The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. *Amen*

For the Armed Services,

OLORD God of Hosts, stretch forth, we pray thee, thine almighty arm to strengthen and protect the soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, coastguardsmen and contractors of our country; Support them in the day of battle, and in the time of peace keep them safe from all evil; endue them with courage and loyalty; and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach. Preserve all who serve therein from the dangers of the sea, and from the violence of the enemy; that they may be a safeguard unto the United States of America, and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions; that the inhabitants of our land may in peace and quietness serve thee our God, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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:



Whitsuntide

Psalm 145 Joel 2:28, Romans 8:1-11

May 19, 2013

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen.

Fifty days after the resurrection of Christ, something amazing happened. Not that the resurrection wasn't amazing enough. Jesus of Nazareth died on a Roman cross. He literally died there. And when you consider that He was God in the flesh, that's somewhat amazing in itself. Yet, three days later, He was alive again. He rose from the dead. Amazing. The ascension of Christ was equally amazing. This "Man" who had died and risen from the grave, physically and bodily began to float, steadily rising higher and higher into the sky until He disappeared into the clouds. I can't imagine the fear and shock felt by those eleven men who witnessed the ascension. Remember that at this point they still did not understand who Jesus is. Just moments before His ascension they had asked Him if He was ready to restore the kingdom to Israel., meaning was He going to drive out the Romans and give the land back to the Jews? It was as though they were saying, since Jesus had gotten this crucifixion and resurrection out of His system, would He now do something important, and give the land of Israel back to the Jews? But instead of leading an attack on Rome, Jesus simply left the earth. He simply floated away. Amazing. But even after the ascension, something amazing happened. The Holy Spirit came to the Apostles and enabled them to miraculously speak in ways that were understood by people of many

different languages. And what they spoke was not what today passes for speaking in tongues, nor was it a private "prayer language," they proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

It is easy to miss the real significance of this event, because so many people nowadays proclaim an erroneous view of it. In fact, whole denominations have formed around the mistaken idea that the main event here is speaking in tongues. But the main event is not speaking in tongues. The main even is the inauguration of the New Age, the age of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In the Bible, the New Age is often called the "last days" or the "end times" But it important that we realise that the phrase "last days" does not refer to the final few days before the end. It is not a numerical term, it is a positional term. It describes the place or position of our time in the plan of God. "Last days" means we are in the last era, the last age. And this era could end today, or it could last several more thousand, or even million, years. Understand this and you will save yourself much wasted time trying to decide if this is the day Jesus is coming back, and if this event or that event it the "sign" that His return, or the "rapture" is near.

Since the Reformation, certain groups have taken Peter's quote of Joel 2 as a numerical term, meaning they thought it referred to the very last few days before the end of the world, return of Christ, or "rapture." But again I stress that "last days" refers to an era, not a number. It refers to the last era of the plan of God, prior to the time when God will fully and finally "gather together in one all things in Christ" (Eph. 1:10). Since the Reformation the number of groups and people interpreting the last days as a numerical phrase has multiplied, and it is because of the multitude of these groups and people, and the way their views have been popularised in movies and books and sermons, that the real meaning of the day of Pentecost has been obscured. Their views have so influenced the popular understanding of Pentecost that most people do not even know about the real meaning of Pentecost and the last days. So, I repeat my earlier statement, that the real significance of the day of Pentecost is that it is the beginning of the New Era of the Gospel of Christ, and the "last days" are that era.

The new era is the age in which the promises of the Old Testament are beginning to be fulfilled. The Old Testament gave us sacrifices and dietary laws and a physical, political entity named Israel, and these things symbolically represented the coming of Christ. His sacrifice on the cross would accomplish what no animal sacrifice could accomplish. He would be the Priest of His people in a way no human priest could ever be. He would be the King of His people in a way no human king could ever be. And the revelation of His Kingdom would be accomplished through direct proclamation rather than through signs and symbols. And His Kingdom would include people from all races and nationalities and languages, not just people from Israel. The day of Pentecost is the sign that that day has arrived. The Saviour has come and has given His life as the ransom for sin. Now forgiveness of sin and life in His Kingdom are offered to all who believe and receive it. The power of sin is breaking, and those who are in Christ are called and enabled to live free of the things that kill the soul and ruin lives, free to live in unity and harmony with God and one another.

In other words, the last days are the era of the Gospel. The meaning of Pentecost is not that you can or should speak in tongues. Tongues were just a sign that the new era has begun. They were/are not the point, nor were/are they to be sought. To make tongues the point is to make personal experience the meaning of Christianity. It is to force Christianity into the realm of subjective feelings and emotions and mystical

experiences. None of these things have any relationship or resemblance to Biblical Christian faith. This is why I oppose what I call "contemporaryism" in church. Contemporaryism isn't just an attempt to dispense with the ancient liturgies and hymns in order to connect with people through music and worship styles they like. Contemporaryism is an attempt to subjectivise worship and the faith. Contemporaryism reduces worship to happy-clappy experiences, and reduces faith to feeling good about God. But the Good news of Jesus Christ is not that you can get a good feeling at church. It is that God is with us. He has paid the price of our sins and offers us a chance to live the way He created us to live, a constructive and meaningful life lived in harmony with Him and one another, now and forever.

And now, the Gospel that was once almost hidden by the animal sacrifices and symbolism of the Old Testament, is openly and clearly proclaimed. That is what the Holy Spirit was doing on the day of Pentecost. The Apostles, so confused about the nature and work of Christ, through the work of the Holy Spirit, were suddenly able to understand who Jesus is. His teaching suddenly made sense to them. His crucifixion made sense to them, as did His resurrection and ascension. Suddenly they knew He was everything the Old Testament promised. That is what the Holy Spirit does today, He enables us to believe the Gospel of Christ.

But the Apostles also proclaimed the Gospel, and that is also the ministry of the Holy Spirit. He proclaims this Gospel of reconciliation to God through Jesus Christ. The Old Testament signs and symbols have passed away now. The clear and clarion call goes out to all, "Believe [have faith] on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

+Dennis Campbell

Bishop, Anglican Orthodox Church Diocese of Virginia
Rector, Holy Trinity Anglican Orthodox Church
Powhatan, Virginia
www.HolyTrinityAnglicanOrthodoxChurch.org
www.lifeinthescrptures.blogspot.com--

Rev Bryan Dabney of Saint John's Sunday Sermon

We are fortunate to have Bryan's Sunday Sermon. If you want people to come to The Truth, you have to speak the truth, expose the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.



Whitsunday

Today we celebrate the coming of the Holy Ghost upon the disciples of our Lord. Our church calendar commemorates this solemn and extraordinary event which is also referred to as Whitsunday, or Whitsuntide for the first three days of the week on which Pentecost falls during the year. The name Whitsunday comes to us from the Old English word for the color white. This was on account of the white robes which were worn by recently baptized persons. Pentecost was and remains a Jewish festival which falls fifty days after Passover and memorializes our LORD's giving of the Law to Moses. For Christians, it is the birthday of the church when God gave the gift of his Spirit to the apostles. Ever after, the Holy Spirit of God would come to all who have truly accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

Now let us consider the details of that latter event. Our Lord instructed the disciples, prior to his ascension, not to depart from Jerusalem until they had received the Holy Ghost (Acts 1:4-8). St. Luke, the author of both the gospel which bears his name and the Book of Acts, was very meticulous in his recording of the events which occurred in the life of Christ and those of the early apostles. While no gospel writer recorded every single event, or every aspect of the events about which they wrote; they, nevertheless, gave us what the Holy Spirit of God urged them to write on his behalf. Notice that the eleven disciples observed the ascension of Christ Jesus and heard the witness of the angels present (Acts 1:11) who informed them that as Jesus had so ascended, in like manner he would return. And such affirmed in their minds that Jesus is of God and that all which he had told them would come to pass. Their eyewitness testimony and their willingness to die rather than to deny that witness is an integral part of the Christian ethos as noted in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds. No one who bears the name of Christ can be his and deny his ascension into heaven as the apostles witnessed and the Scriptures have recorded.

After the ascension, the apostles returned to Jerusalem with great joy and were found continually in the temple praising and blessing God (St. Luke 24:52- 53). They gathered themselves together with other believers and were in prayer and supplication. They also at the urging of the Holy Spirit, selected another disciple from among the brethren who was named Matthias.

Ten days later, on the Feast of Pentecost, God sent to them the Holy Ghost as Christ had promised. The Spirit of God came to them with a rushing wind as in Genesis 1:2 and was then followed by the cloven tongues as of fire that sat upon each of them. As the Rev. Matthew Henry once observed, "These tongues were cloven (divided) to signify that God would divide unto all nations the knowledge of his grace. The tongues were divided, yet they (the disciples) still continued all of one accord, for there may be a sincere unity of affections where yet there is a diversity of expression." They were, after all, preaching the same message just in different languages.

Across the globe, there are myriads of Christians who make up the body of Christ. They may speak different languages and have differing orders of worship, but if they are in Christ, they will possess the Holy Spirit of God. They will thus honor and adore the Godhead through their reverent worship, teaching, preaching and living of his word and commandment. And such will be plainly visible to any fellow Christian. While Anglican Orthodox Christians will differ in our worship from those of the other denominations of the Christian faith; still, if we are all holding to the essentials of the faith, we are brothers and sisters in Christ, eternally linked to him and to one another by the indwelling of the Holy Ghost.

Back in Genesis 11:1-9, the LORD had broken the ethnic and linguistic unity of mankind in order to restrain the operations of evil in the world. While in Acts 2:1-11, he began the process of reunifying mankind under the auspices of the Holy Ghost. Through the third person of the Trinity, he would build a spiritual unity amongst the various peoples, kindreds and tongues who not being able to identify with others different from themselves apart from the Holy Spirit, might have that unity by means of God's Spirit in Jesus Christ. For after the Holy Ghost had come upon the disciples, they spoke in the languages of the multitude of visitors who had come to Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost. As St. Luke noted in Acts 2:5, there were in Jerusalem devout Jews from every corner of the known world and they each heard the gospel in their own language. This powerful message in Scripture was a display of God's power to make his proclamations known unto all the world beginning first in Jerusalem (St. Luke 24: 47).

God 's word cannot be restrained nor can it be rendered unfruitful. God's plan and purpose has been to redeem that which was lost and the gift of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost was an important milestone in that regard.

Now consider what we as Christians receive in God's gift of the Holy Ghost to us. First of all, we are regenerated. God makes us alive in Christ Jesus. St. Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:1-10 that he has quickened us, that is, to make us alive spiritually through the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. Secondly, he anoints us through the Spirit (I St. John 2:20-27). For it is by this anointing that we have grace sufficient to do those things which God would have us do in his service. Thirdly, if we are of Christ then we have received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. This is not a work of ourselves, nor of man, but of God. In Acts 2:17, St. Peter recounted what the LORD had said through the prophet Joel (2:28-29), I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh. While we Christians are commanded to observe the sacrament of Holy Baptism, it is after all God who furnishes his Spirit, not at our behest, but upon his own accord, will and purpose. That is why we believe, agreeable to the Nicene Creed, in one baptism for the remission of sins which is of the Holy Ghost. And lastly, the Holy Ghost guides us into all truth (St. John 16:13), empowers our witness (Micah 3:8), and sanctifies us in our walk and work (II Thessalonians 2:13-14).

So at Pentecost, the church received the gift of the Holy Ghost. It is a gift of inestimable value and one which is confined to God's chosen and elect saints who have been known of him before the foundations of the world were laid. It should be a source of great comfort and blessing to have the Holy Ghost indwell each of us. And we should be in prayer to God that he would illuminate more and more of mankind that they too might receive this most wonderful gift to their eternal good.

Let us pray,

FATHER, extend thy most holy Spirit to those around us who are mired in the darkness of a life without Christ; that they too might come to know him and be numbered with thy saints in glory; and this we ask in the name of him who promised to not leave us comfortless in this world, even Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

After Church Hospitality

Sadly, no after church snacks. The same story every week, is it not? The fact is that we are supposed to be on a low carb diet and there really aren't any low carb snacks that appeal to us. So, with no fatted dog nut in sight, we were out of luck! Please someone, between now and next Sunday invent some no-carb dog nuts.

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
26 May 2012	Opportunity Available – Trinity Sunday – Memorial Day Weekend
2 June 2012	Opportunity Available – First Sunday after Trinity
9 June 2012	Opportunity Available – Second Sunday after Trinity
16 June 2012	Opportunity Available – Third Sunday after Trinity
23 June 2012	Opportunity Available – Fourth Sunday after Trinity
30 June 2012	Opportunity Available – Fifth Sunday after Trinity
7 July 2012	Opportunity Available – Sixth Sunday after Trinity

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 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

Mark Wilson is on travel this week to visit his mother in Pennsylvania.

Bishop Jerry Ogles is on travel this week to Saint Peter's in Statesville, North Carolina.

The entire Langstaff family from Perth is on an *Around the World in 90 Days* tour. Right

now they are in the UK visiting Paul's mum, Mrs. Kay on the list further down!
Details here:

<http://langytravel.blogspot.com>

Loss of Home

Sarah who lost her home and all the contents when her house caught fire and burned to the ground near the end of January 2013. Her beloved dog was taken in the fire. Please pray for Sarah as she has many decisions at this time and help her to know Jesus will be with her to help to make the "crooked road straight."

Move

Ryan Hopkins has moved to Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, to study Dressage Riding through June 2014. Please pray for God's guidance in his life as he works and studies. Help him to see where God would like him to go from here and how he should get there.

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 schoolmates 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.

Departed

Inez passed away on 15 May 2013, after a hard fought battle with the results of a right brain ischemic stroke 18 March 2013. Please give thanks for her time here and pray for those who she has left behind that they might put their sadness with our Lord and be happy for Inez.

Kathy is in great need of your prayers, this week both her mother and sister died. Please pray that she can let God carry her sorrow and help her to adjust to their temporary separation.

Capt. Victoria A. Pinckney, 27, of Palmdale, Calif.; Capt. Mark T. Voss, 27, of Boerne, Tex.; and TSgt. Herman Mackey III, 30, of Bakersfield, Calif., the crew of USAF Tanker 63-8877 (Fairchild crew of three in a McConnell tanker) were killed in a mishap in Kyrgyzstan on 3 May 2013. A potent reminder of the cost of the freedom that some value so little. May the families be able to let God carry their sorrow. May we each share it and value it.



Julia passed away on 19 April 2013, after a hard fought battle with cancer. She is now home with her family who have gone before her. Give thanks for her life here and pray for those she leaves behind.

Lynn Hatler, Bishop Jerry's sister, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, passed away the night of 23 March 2013, after complications during knee surgery. Please give thanks for Lynn's time here on earth and pray for comfort and strength for those she leaves behind. Please pray her family might keep all their trust in the Lord and let him carry their worry and concern on the temporary separation.

Nearing the end of their time here on earth

Reba is nearing the end of her time here on earth. Please pray her transition from here to home will be peaceful and with little distress. Pray also for strength and

guidance for her family who are here with her now and will of necessity remain behind; in particular for her daughter Lynn with whom she lives and her son in law Bill. Pray for the love of God to stay foremost in their hearts.

Polly is in hospice care with dementia and spinal stenosis. Please pray for her as she prepares to go home to be with her family who have gone before her. Pray for the faith of her family to build and the transition to be good.

Homebound or Infirm

Lou has aspiration pneumonia. Please pray for the infection to be knocked down and for her continued recovery.

Frank has been coping with various ailments from older age. He is in his 90s and it has been a difficult year. Pray he will find comfort in God, that those who provide care to him will pay attention to him, do their best and give him the love we all desire. Pray that the coming year will provide relief to him.

Norma, Sara's mother is in a state of deteriorating health, both physically and mentally, with both onset dementia and Alzheimer's. She is slowly drifting away, though she still recognizes Sara and prayer gives her a sense of peace. Please pray 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.

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

Scott, one of our Lord's ministers who collapsed a week ago and is in the ICU of a Medical Center since he had a pulmonary embolism, with a concurrent infection of several bacterial agents. He has stopped breathing on several occasions, and may have undergone brain damage. He currently is on DNR. Please pray for recovery so that he will continue to do his Lord's calling.

Becky has fourth stage metastasized lung cancer and is not doing well with chemotherapy treatments. Please pray for Becky and her husband as they are together during this difficult time in their lives.

Larry Howes suffered a fairly severe stroke. 4 December 2012, doctors replaced a valve in a shunt that had been put in about two weeks before, and Larry responded very well. He was able to go home. His treatment at Massachusetts General Hospital was successful as far as averting the immediate life-threatening condition. He continues to have numerous severe health issues. His eyesight in one eye is almost gone, and it is fading in the other. He has heart problems, as well; these on top of his long-time depression problems. He faces medical bills far beyond insurance and other resources. He is no longer able to work and has had to close the title examination business he took over from his father about twenty years ago. He will be going on Social Security Disability Income, Medicare and Medicaid.

Please pray for the medical team treating him to pay attention and do their very best; that the many medical/surgical procedures he will need may succeed, that Larry be given strength and peace in these trials and he may succeed in providing himself with the resources to afford the care he will need.

Pray also for confidence in our Lord for Larry and his family. Larry needs a miracle, pray for one. Please.

Colleen has been battling pancreatic cancer over the last year and it has now spread to one of her lungs. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Christine has cancer of the colon, which spread to her liver; she is receiving chemotherapy and is having difficulty eating. Please pray for the medical team treating her to pay attention and do their very best; pray also for confidence in our Lord for Christine and her family.

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.

Colonel Bud Day's cancer has returned. The outlook is not favorable. Bud has been an inspiration to all of us for years, this changes nothing. He is well at peace with our Lord and we all hope he stays with us for a while longer.

Surgery

Eddie has upcoming bladder surgery. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Eddie and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Testing and Treatment

Lana's doctor found something on her lymph nodes and ovaries. Pray for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Lana and her family.

Sarah wife of Rev Geordie (AOC – UK) had a cat scan and biopsy which found Stage 3 cancer in her ovaries which appears to have spread to her stomach. She will undergo several weeks of chemotherapy, which prayerfully will allow major surgery to take place. Sarah and Geordie are both in a bit of shock at this development. They trust all will work out in the end and ask God's help for the interim. They ask that He guide them and the medical team treating Sarah and that the team pay attention and do their very best. They both ask you pray they will be able to let God carry all their worry.

Healing

Ester Whidett (Wilson), Mark Wilson's mother, has congestive heart failure and has not been doing well. She was in the hospital due to excessive fluid buildup, which seems to have been controlled and is now home. Pray she will be able to keep her medications under control and do well at home. Please pray for her to place all her trust in God and let Him carry her concerns. Pray also for her children who are with her at this time.

Arlen is receiving treatment for lung cancer and recently experienced a ruptured colon during treatment. She is alone in Oregon but does have a friend who has traveled a great distance to be at her side. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Arlen.

Oscar discovered some time ago he had blood clots in his leg and lung. He has been treated for them and has not been cured. He now will be facing surgery. Please keep him in your prayers.

Angela had an ischemic stroke (clot). Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Angela. Please pray also that she and

her family might put their worries on our Lord's back so she can work hard towards recovery.

Nora had a stroke mid February 2013. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Nora. Please pray also that she and her family might put their worries on our Lord's back so she can work hard towards recovery.

Linda has been hospitalized for several days with a gastrointestinal problem. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Linda.

Dester is suffering from unknown skin and diseases. Please guide the medical team treating him to find out what the problem is and cure it. Pray also for Dester to trust in the Lord.

Lee has Arterial Fibrillation; the medical people are not sure how to help her. Please pray for guidance for the team treating her and for Lee and her family to make the right decisions regarding treatment..

Nell recently adopted two children and has just been diagnosed with multiple myeloma.

Sarah is recovering from a stroke, but fell and broke bones. Please pray for her peace of mind and rapid and full recovery. Pray for trust in God for her and her family.

Mary Lou has been suffering with seizures. She was in the hospital with a 24 hour monitor and is being sent home from the hospital with two medications and orders to return in 2 months for another MRI to review whatever is going on in her brain. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating her, as well as peace of mind and trust in God for her and her family.

Kathleen has spent the last two weeks in the hospital. She has been diagnosed with colitis, shingles and possibly colon cancer. Pray she will be comfortable and begin to heal.

Rachel has Mitochondrial Myopathy. This is a hereditary disease of the muscles and they do not have a cure for it. Part of her pain is her family does not believe she is indeed ill, as she appears to be just fine. Please pray her family will learn the truth and be supportive of her; pray also the medical people treating her will find the right measures to minimize the disease. Most particularly pray for Rachel's trust in God.

Nicolas is in the hospital with serious symptoms of a heart disorder. Please pray for peace of mind for him and guidance for the medical team looking for the cause and cure.

Mrs. Baek an elderly women fell and injured her spine. Doctors cannot repair the spinal injury due to her age. She fell again the morning of 12 December 2012, breaking her collar bone which is also untreatable. Mrs. Baek is in severe pain and will appreciate your prayers.

Juanita is a young girl who was in a coma because of a blood disease. She has not come out and is gaining strength. They are awaiting results from blood samples. Her family thanks you for your prayers and asks that you continue.

Barbara had a accident while cooking and the pressure cooker blew up in her face, causing second and third degree burns over her face and upper body. Because of

this she has incurred kidney problems and may need a transplant.

George had foot surgery. Please give thanks for the surgery and pray for a full and rapid recovery.

Nellie is in the emergency room of a hospital in a great deal of pain. Please pray for peace of mind for her and guidance for the medical team looking for the cause and cure.

Lauralee Meade 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.

Kevin Gerhart discovered cancer on his neck. He underwent radiation and chemotherapy. 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.

Bill, Sara's husband, had a third abdominal surgery on 22 November 2011, to remove a tumor. Bill is doing better keeping the doctor's instructions, for which we are all grateful, including taking chemotherapy once a day for two more years. He has radically decreased the consumption of alcohol and eating at least mostly properly. Please pray for help for him to continue do all this. Please pray also 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.

Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) has had a chest infection, perhaps viral, but seems to be getting better. She actually sent an iMessage last week, but did not hang around for a response a minute later! Her son and family are on their way to see her soon! Please pray for continued peace of mind for Mrs. Kay and her family. Give thanks for her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude.

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 and his mom just came back from Houston at the Cancer Center for what was hoped to be a routine every four month bone scan. The scans were done on schedule, but a couple of new spots showed up. After Matt's San Diego doctors conferred with the Houston doctors to figure out what these spots mean, it turned out they are new and old injuries with no bad meaning. In effect they are CLEAN SCANS. Matt and his family ask you to give thanks for the super results. Please also give thanks 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.

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.

Thanksgiving and Continued Healing

Casey Anna Reid, (granddaughter of Rev Rick Reid, Rector of St Peter's), had successful surgery on Friday morning 26 April 2013, at Catawba Valley Medical Center to have her skin tag removed. The surgery was a success and she is resting at home. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying attention and doing their very best. Give thanks for the great result and for rapid healing with no ill effects from the anesthesia.

James had surgery the morning of 4 April 2013 at Cancer Treatment Centers of America which appears to have gone well. The pathology report found the high grade carcinoma cancer was confined to the bladder. There was no sign of cancer in surrounding areas, tissues, organs, etc. The Sovereign King of heaven and earth has blessed Jim immensely; he will not have to endure chemo or radiation, he will continue with various tests and see the physicians. Please give thanks for the good result and the work of the surgical team paying attention and doing their very best. Pray for James' continued recovery and for him and his wife Dawn to be able to put their worry and concern on His Back.

Brian has now finished the chemotherapy and radiation treatment for his upper lung and bronchial area cancer, which seems to have gone well; the burning is almost gone which is very good. The best news is a CT Scan on Monday of Holy Week found no indication of the cancer followed by what seems to be good CT and PET Scans on 15 May 2013. Please give thanks for this great news and pray for continued good things to go on. There is more radiation currently scheduled, but Brian is gaining strength, please give thanks for this. Brian is finally getting his sodium level up. Please give thanks for an increase in sodium uptake and retention. Please also pray Brian will rest and not over extend himself. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Brian and his fiancé Mel, so he can rest and gain strength; pray for the medical team treating him to continue to pay close attention and do their very best; pray also he can quit smoking.

Jeff had successful surgery on Monday 4 March 2013, at Vanderbilt Medical Center to remove his esophagus as the doctors felt this is the only remedy for pre-cancerous and cancerous cells in his esophagus and stomach. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and pray that his pain level will go down and he will

recover quickly. Pray for Jeff and his family to keep their faith in God and let him carry their worries.

Rick is recovering from hip replacement surgery in the middle of February 2013.

Buzz Baron had C5-6 surgery the morning of 3 March 2013, which went well. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying attention and doing their best and for a good result; pray also for a full and rapid recovery.

Karen had surgery the afternoon of 1 March 2013 to remove a spot on her lung; the surgery went well and the spot was benign. Please give thanks for the great result. Pray also for continued trust in God and peace of mind for Karen, as well as a rapid recovery.

Dick's left arm was amputated after treating for Merkel Cell carcinoma over a year. He is now believed to be cancer free and is waiting to be fitted with an artificial arm. Please join Dick and his family in giving thanks to Our Lord Jesus Christ for his recovery as well as for their trust in God.

Sasha a young lady with a husband and two children had diagnosed with Stage 4 breast cancer whose cells were thought to have spread to her spine. After radiation and chemotherapy, which is continuing through the end of January 2013, she is regaining her stamina and does not have any detectable cancer activity. The tumors in her skin are gone and the large tumors in her breasts are gone. She and her family ask that you give thanks to our Father in heaven. She also gives thanks to all who have prayed for her.

Traci had surgery colon cancer on 27 December 2012. The surgery went very well and she appears to be cancer free. But, she had a pulmonary embolism and another clot in the artery to the spleen which will keep her in the hospital for at least several days. Traci is beginning to be weary of her medical situation. Please pray that she will not become despondent. Pray that she will open her heart to God's Grace that He might enter in to her heart and strengthen her.

Bob Smouse had shoulder surgery on 28 November 2012. He would appreciate your thanksgiving prayers. While the surgery apparently went well, he is still in pain and would also appreciate prayers for continued healing and the pain to subside. He promises to work very hard on recovery therapy.

Carol Stone, the sweet wife of Mike Stone, seems to have recovered far better than expected from a severe brain bleed. She thinks she can walk, etc., even though she cannot. She has improved and is nearly able to stand up by herself; this makes it almost certain that she will have another fall. Presently she can stand and walk a little with a great deal of assistance. Hopefully this means she will ultimately be able to walk, at least with the aid of a walker or cane. What's holding her back at the moment is her cognitive deficits and they are trying to find a place to get her more therapy

Please pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Mike, guidance for the medical team treating Carol and strength for Carol as well as faith and trust. No one can ever understand the why of these things here on earth. Sara who passed this request on asks that you pray in both faith and hope.

Muriel Pappin broke her hip in a fall and had surgery on 21 November 2012. Muriel was home, but has had complications and went back in the hospital. She is now back home. Please give thanks for her return home and pray for her continued

recovery.

Business

Mark's business is in difficulty. He works in a shrinking field, of which he is one of the country's true masters, but there is little work available. He asks that you pray that he can find a way to survive in his industry, which he loves and needs his talents. Pray he can find new sources of business and new ways of doing things, perhaps someone to partner with to better use his talents. Pray also for those who work for and with him that they might do their best to help.

Employment

Catherine and Lewis are at a low ebb due to a struggle for employment. Your fervent prayers will be appreciated.

Lori is considering a potential change in her employment. Please pray for God's guidance in considering all aspect of her potential work.

Rodriguez Family are looking for work. It seems many obstacles have been put in their way of finding employment. Please pray they will find employment with a firm that will be able to use their considerable skill and hard work to benefit both the firm and the family.

Sarah is concerned about the future with her company. She would appreciate prayers for her continued employment and that her firm might find more and better ways to use her considerable skills.

Financial Guidance and Healing

David and Lorna are having financial problems. They are trying to find a smaller home which may be more affordable. *Lorna* has had an ongoing battle with brain cancer, her trips back and forth to the hospital have drained their finances to the point they sometimes struggle to have enough food in the house. Pleaser pray for *Lorna's* healing and guidance on how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves.

Guidance

Steve Sundberg had a heart attack after Easter 2011, then a five-way heart by-pass. In addition to the bypass surgery, he has been through a horrible divorce and lost his job after some 30 years service. Steve is very thrifty and a good investor so he is reasonably ok financially. The best thing is that he has trust in the Lord.

Jeanette has had many members of her family die from diabetes and several are near death now. Jeanette does not know the Lord and is despondent and perplexed about her family and herself. Please pray she can open her heart to allow the Holy Ghost in to bring her knowledge and understanding.

Christy just lost her sister in an automobile accident; this follows closely the loss of two family. Please pray she can let our Lord Jesus Christ carry all her sorry, worry and care at this extremely difficult and stressful time.

Dr. Elizabeth Raj is teaching a biblical approach to the psychological problems facing many in our society today. She is battling against the growing influence of worldly psychology adopted by the churches themselves. Elizabeth constantly stresses answers are found between the covers of that precious Book, the Holy Bible. Please pray for encouragement, strength, fortitude and courage for her.

Daniel and Danielle are experiencing family strife as a result of custodial issues with a daughter. Please pray they and those they strive with might look to the child's best interests in their time of difficulty and disagreement; to work for her best interests and not use her as a weapon amongst themselves.

Abigail is a teenager who has behavior problems. She feels she is in an area of mental darkness. Please pray that she might look to God for help and not within herself.

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. She asks for God's help to grow her business while keeping up with the needs of her mother and husband and healing her own problems.

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

Hap asks you to pray he might be able to trust God will help him make the right decisions at the right time and not to worry uselessly, to change those things he can change, accept those things he cannot change, sleep well to be able to do the correct things with a clear head and that he will open his heart to the Holy Ghost.

Thanksgiving

Betsy has fully recovered from her sprained ankle and give thanks for the rapid recovery, she asks you do likewise.

David has been able to return to the ministry after a heart attack mid February 2013, and stent insertion, he is now home. Please join David in giving thanks for his survival and recovery.

New Ordination

Reverend Deacon Wilson Menoia was ordained this Pentecost 19 May 2103, by Bishop Zephaniah Legumana. As a deacon, Wilson has established with others a congregation of many in Bambir Village, Santa Cruz, Solomon Islands. Please pray that many will come to know our Lord Jesus Christ through this congregation in the middle of the South Pacific. The Lord has worked much through Wilson, may He continue to do so.

O ALMIGHTY God, be pleased to remember with thy mercy and love all those who minister before thee in holy things. Prosper the great work in which he is engaged. Enable him faithfully to preach thy Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments. May he always uphold Christ, both by his words and in his life, and in all things set forward thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

New Congregations

Rev Rick Reid is the minister of the new AOC congregation in Newton, North Carolina, Saint Andrews Anglican Church. Their first Sunday was 5 May 2013. Please pray Rick will be able to bring God's Word to the people in and near Newton.

Reverend Wilson Menoia has one of the new congregations in the Solomon Islands. The Rev. Menoia and his members in the Temotu Province were recently hit by the tsunami and you all prayed for and helped the members then. Now they are facing a tsunami of human beings (works of the Devil) and ask that you pray for them. They are in the Eastern end of the Islands and a ways away from the established congregations in these islands. Please pray for them as they bring

souls to Christ as they establish His Church.

Guidance for Ministers

Rev LTC Al Ryan has been appointed Deacon-In-Charge of the mission parish of St. Augustine of Canterbury Anglican Church, Anglican Church in America (ACA) parish in Old Orchard Beach, Maine. It is a small but growing mission, which has been plagued by clergy change. Al, the diocesan pilot, has been appointed for one year, during which time he is to help them identify what their needs are for a vicar. He has done this before and asks you to pray for God's help one more time; not only for himself, but for the parish.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (Bagram AB, Afghanistan), Jordan (USMC – Fleet Marine Force - Pacific), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator – Now in the Desert), Trevor (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Guam)

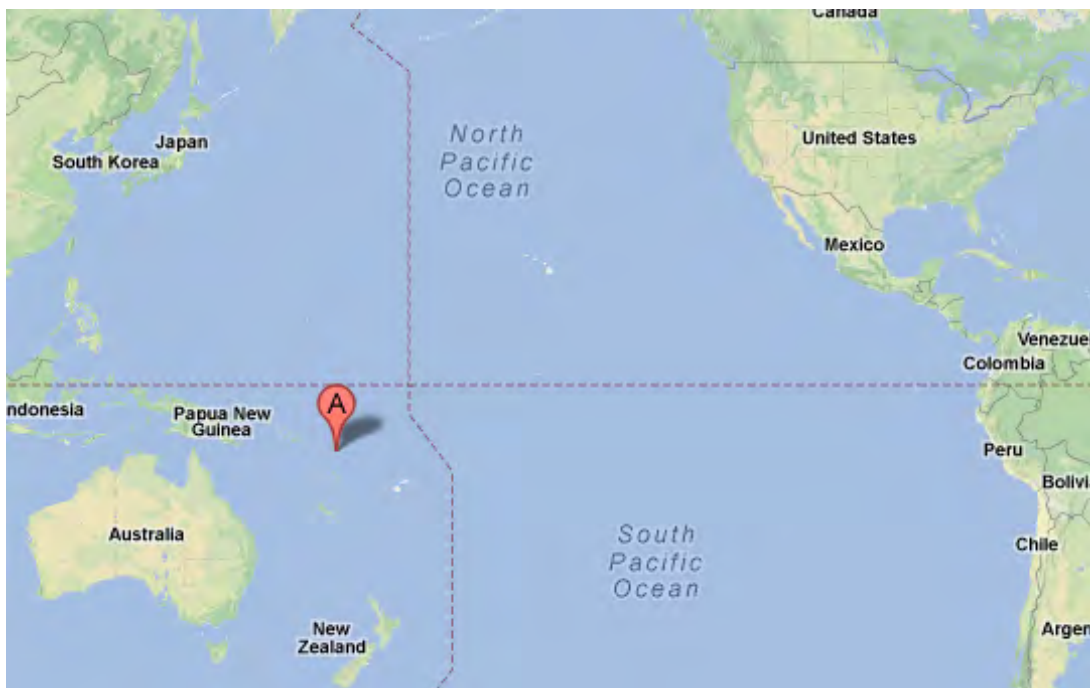
Persecuted

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.

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.



Solomon Islands Update

Did you wonder if the Mite Box and other offerings collected went anywhere in particular? They did, indeed!

The first relief check from offerings sent to the national office was wired to Bishop Zephaniah who in turn gave it to Deacon Wilson Menoia of Santa Cruz Island on 23 February 2013 featured in the photo below:



There is even more great news, on 19 May 2013, Deacon Wilson Menoia will be ordained a priest at his home in Bambir Village, Santa Cruz, Solomon Islands by Bishop Zephaniah. At that time another offering check from the relief donations will be given to the newly ordained Reverend Wilson.

This will be an ongoing effort and the National Office¹ will continue to update us with pictures and news about the relief effort for the Santa Cruz Island congregation upon the return of Bishop Zephaniah to Honiara, Solomon Islands which is the home of the national Anglican Orthodox office of the Solomon Islands.

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

¹ The National Office is really the World Headquarters, we just don't want their heads to explode!

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
26 May 2012	Dru Arnold – Trinity Sunday
2 June 2012	Dru Arnold –First Sunday after Trinity

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

26 May 2013 – Trinity Sunday – 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**

26 May 2013 – Trinity Sunday – 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**

27 May 2013 – Memorial 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**

2 June 2013 – First 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**

9 June 2013 – Second 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**

16 June 2013 – Third 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**

23 June 2013 – 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**

30 June 2013 – 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**

4 July 2013 – 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**