



# Ninth Sunday after Trinity

## Sunday Report

Today was the Ninth Sunday after Trinity Sunday. The weather was once again picture perfect, clear, dry and 56°F at sunrise, rising to 78°F by the end of church under those same blue skies! Once again, the gathering song gathered not one and 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.

As everyone knows, we love *Amazing Grace!* It is a favorite among sinners.

### *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. Most are from Rev Bryan Dabney, a few from other places, but overall mostly from Bryan. He always has a few great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

Lord, keep Your arm around my shoulder and Your hand over my mouth!

*Lew Valkenaar*



The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

*Nahum 1:7*

Take the advice of a minister of Christ this very day. Seek durable riches— a treasure that cannot be taken from you— a city which hath lasting foundations. Do as the Apostle Paul did. Give yourself to the Lord Jesus Christ, and seek that incorruptible crown he is ready to bestow.

*JC Ryle*  
19<sup>th</sup> century Anglican bishop and author  
(Holiness, p. 155)

*As to Abortion* - Among the Carthaginians there was brazen statue of Saturn [Moloch] putting forth the palms of his hands, bending in such a manner toward the earth, as that the boy who was laid upon them, in order to be sacrificed, should slip off, and so fall down headlong into a deep burning furnace... The ancient fable likewise that is common among all Grecians, that Saturn devoured his own children, seems to be confirmed by this law among the Carthaginians.

*Diodorus Siculus*  
1<sup>st</sup> century BC Roman historian  
(as quoted by Unger in his work *Biblical Demonology*, p. 135)

Wars are not made by common folk, scratching for livings in the heat of the day; they are made by demagogues infesting palaces.

*H. L. Mencken*  
20<sup>th</sup> century American journalist and essayist

They who voluntarily put themselves under the power of a tyrant deserve whatever fate they receive.

*Aesop*  
6<sup>th</sup> century BC Greek philosopher and author

The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government.

*Thomas Jefferson*  
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 200-203, with the Collect first:

### The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

*The Collect.*

**G**RANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Dru Arnold read the Epistle, which came from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, the



Tenth Chapter beginning at the First Verse. Paul reminds us we have a common past, regardless of our actual lineage. Spiritually, we are descended from the Jews of the Exodus. Their God is our God, their actions were directed by our God, the same God. He was a Trinity then as He is today. Their reality is our reality, whether we choose to understand or accept it. Our forefathers drank of "the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." Those who have gone before provide examples, both good and bad. In this letter Paul addresses the bad and suggest we should see what their ill behavior gained them before we set our course and not after. And, let we think ourselves ever so special, he reminds us that we are subjected to no special temptations, only those "as is common to man." This is another example of the adage, Those who are ignorant of history are doomed to repeat it.

**B**RETHERN, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

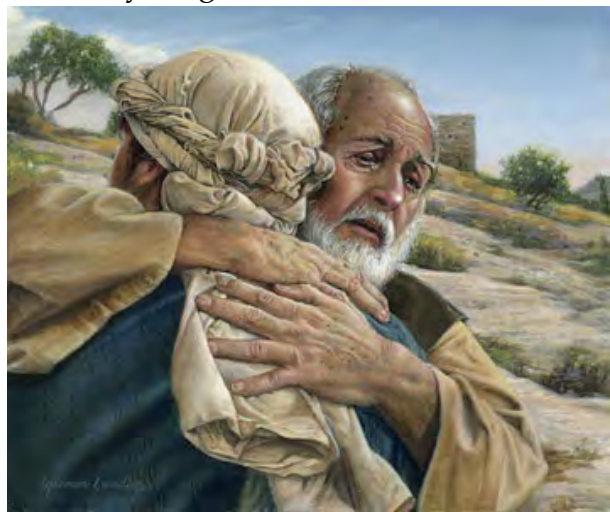
Hap Arnold read today's Holy Gospel, which started in the Fifteenth Chapter of the



Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the Eleventh Verse and recounts the story of the prodigal son. A man has two sons, the older is a wonderful young man who strives to please his father in everything he does. The younger son asks for his inheritance, now rather than later, and sets off to spend it wastefully in a far off land. In dire straits, he decides to go home to his father and beg to be allowed to live as one of his servants. He decides to tell his father, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son..." Before he can get the words out of his mouth, his father welcomes him, gives him new clothing and calls the servants to prepare a fatted calf for a big party. The elder son is very angry and hurt. He asks his father what he did wrong; he followed his instructions every day to the best of his

ability, worked hard, and yet his father had never even given a small party for him. The father answered, saying, "Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine." It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost and is found." This story, like that of the workers in the vineyard has a number of meanings. Like the father in the story, God wants us to be His faithful child, but rejoices when we return to Him. Like the prodigal son, we should be grateful to live long enough to return to Him. If we are like the oldest son, let us learn from his mistake and be joyful when our brothers and sisters come home to our family. Let us join in the celebration and not begrudge the fatted calf.

**J**ESUS said, A certain man had two sons: and the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I



have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: and bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: but as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

### *Sermon – Reverend Deacon Jack Arnold - Time and Action*

Today's sermon tied the Epistle and Gospel together talked, as is oft the case, of the need for action, not simply diction, the general content is in forewords above.



Consider the words from the Collect, wherein we ask God to give us ... the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will ...

This is kind of a follow-on to last week's Collect. We are asking God to give us direction that we might know right from wrong and follow the right way. If we listen to our hearts and minds, like the aviator, mariner or adventurer without a compass, we will soon be hopelessly lost. With the compass that God gives us, we can find the One True Way, much like the compass always points North.

This is nothing new. As Paul reminds us we have a common spiritual past, regardless of our actual lineage. Spiritually, we are descended from the

Jews of the Exodus. Their God is our God; their actions were directed by our God, the

same God. He was a Trinity then as He is today. Their reality is our reality, whether we choose to understand or accept it. Our forefathers drank of "the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." Those who have gone before provide examples, both good and bad. In this letter Paul addresses the bad and suggests we should see what their ill behavior gained them before we set our course and not after. And, let us think ourselves ever so special, he reminds us that we are subjected to no special temptations, only those "as is common to man." This is another example of the adage, "Those who are ignorant of history are doomed to repeat it." It is an old saw, but one that is as valid today as the first time it was used.

Speaking of lessons, when Saint Luke recounts the story of the prodigal son we often think of ourselves at that prodigal one returning to God so late in life. Yet there is far more to be learned than this, the titular one.

Consider the two sons. The older is a wonderful young man who strives to please his father in everything he does. The younger son asks for his inheritance, now rather than later, and sets off to spend it wastefully in a far off land. In dire straits, he decides to go home to his father and beg to be allowed to live as one of his servants. He decides to tell his father, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son..." Before he can get the words out of his mouth, his father welcomes him, gives him new clothing and calls the servants to prepare a fatted calf for a big party. The elder son is very angry and hurt. He asks his father what he did wrong; he followed his instructions every day to the best of his ability, worked hard, and yet his father had never even given a small party for him. The father answered, saying, "Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine." It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost and is found."

This story, like that of the workers in the vineyard has a number of meanings. Like the father in the story, God wants us to be His faithful child, but rejoices when we return to Him. Like the prodigal son, we should be grateful to live long enough to return to Him. The moral of the younger son's story is that God is always waiting for us, and if we are not late, we can always return to Him. He will always accept us with opening arms, but we must make sure it is not too late. Don't wait until you die! If you feel you have erred and strayed, repent now! Do not let the sun go down on your sins and wrath, you may not live to see another day! On the other hand, consider the oldest son, let us learn from his mistake and be joyful when our brothers and sisters come home to our family. Let us join in the celebration and not begrudge the fatted calf. Do not let your anger and pride cloud your emotions like it does so many of us. But rather see a sinner coming back into His flock and rejoice in that he is no longer headed towards the Pit!

Action counts. For by their actions ye shall know them.

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**

Ninth Sunday after Trinity  
Saint Andrew's  
Anglican Orthodox Church  
28 July 2013, Anno Domini

### **The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.**

#### *The Collect.*

**G**RANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



*11 And he said, A certain man had two sons: 12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. 13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. 14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. 15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. 17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. 20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. 21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. 22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry 25 Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. 26 And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. 27 And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. 28 And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. 29 And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: 30 But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. 31 And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. 32 It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found. (Luke 15:11-32)*

We take up today the third in a trilogy of lost things in Parables – the **Prodigal Son!**

Due to the length and intrinsic beauty of this Parable, we shall study it in two parts, over two days. The first part involves the coming of age of a son, his rebellion to the Father, his departure and descent into debauchery, and finally his awakening and return to the Father. In the second part, we shall study the reaction of his brother to his homecoming.

*11 And he said, A certain man had two sons* – not just ‘any’ man, but a ‘certain’ man. The father in this Parable is illustrative of God our Father in Heaven who has two peoples (Jews and Gentiles) to whom have been offered the most beneficent of blessing – the salvation by grace through faith in His only Begotten Son. *12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.* Please bear in mind that the younger son, though of tender years, has come to the age of accountability. He is like a Christian who is born of God, has lived as a son of God, but finally rebels against God his Father. In this respect, he differs from the Lost Sheep who was not mature, and not well learned in the means of grace or of pasturelands. He also starkly differs from the Lost Coin which was dead – just as dead as the lost sinner is dead in trespasses and sins. The Lost Sheep, because of its lack of vision and maturity, does not intentionally leave the Good Shepherd. It gets lost because it lacks the sense to follow closely on; but, once lost, it is incapable of finding itself because it lacks the deep root of faith which typifies a well-nurtured child of God. So the Good Shepherd must seek out the Lost Sheep. The Lost coin, being inanimate of spirit, is lost wherever it is and, if found, must be found only by its rightful owner who is God, and by His Sovereign Will and Grace.

The young son desires to be out from under the watchful, though loving, eye of his father. From the moment of his birth, he has lived according to the law of his father. He feels now that he is grown up and become the wisest of ten thousand - **he believes can do better**. He is a child of God by circumstance of a (new) birth and not by persistent faith. Bear in mind, too, that according to the laws of inheritance, the father is not obligated to ‘divide his living’ to the young man. In fact, the young man was impertinent to even make the request. But, even though the son desires to part company with his father, the father loves his son and realizes that the argument of logic and reason will not benefit at this early point of the young man’s maturity (or, rather, immaturity). Our Father God compels none to abide under His beneficent care. Even nations who opt to abandon God do so oblivious to the danger and peril to which they subject themselves. God does not intrude where He is not wanted for He is a perfect gentleman, and we are left to the wiles of the Devil without His over-watching care and protection. We see this being demonstrated across the landscape of America today.

*13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.* How eager are the youth of our day to remove themselves a far distance from the watchful eye of the parent! When freedom looms bold, the child will hurry to get away and enjoy what he believes will be nothing but joy and plenty. Anytime one departs from his Father God, he will be going into a ‘Far Country’ where the famine will certainly arise for him. Being separated from God in spirit, as well as distance, will lead to depravity of conduct and a waste of the wealth God has given. Without the benefit of the Holy Ghost as our heart’s compass, it is impossible to live a life pleasing to God.

The good father watched the darling of his heart depart on that long, dusty road. He watched every move his son made until, at last, his visage disappeared on the



distant horizon. How often would the father sit for days, months, and perhaps years, through the warm summers, amber autumns, dreary winter months, and through the promises of spring, watching that same road for any sign of his son's return. How often would he inquire and receive word back that his son was wasting all – not only his wealth, but his health and humanity as well. Yet, the father never sent for his son or begged him to return. Why not? Because any amount of reasoning with a rebellious son will yield no victory until that son has learned (often the hard way) for himself the cruelty of a world without his Father's loving care. Have we learned that lesson, reader?

***14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.*** A Christian who departs from the presence of God will lose all in the process of riotous living. His life, begun in pleasures of lust, will come to mighty famine of spirit, body, and soul. The Dark Angel will take all that you have, and then some more. The time will always, and with great certainty, arise when you will begin to be in want. With some, this is the moment of awakening for the need of your Father; but with others, more suffering and desperate want is necessary. So it is with our Prodigal – too proud to return to his father, and too desperate to even remember the abundance which he has left behind at the end of that dusty road, he lingers on in peril of his soul forestalling the inevitable.

***15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.*** If we are not joined with God our Father, we shall surely be joined to a stranger who gives not a whit for the well being of our souls. If our companions are not citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven, they shall be citizens of that Far Country. The stranger to whom we are joined when apart from God will only use us and destroy us. He will place us in unsavory circumstances and filthy habitations. If we labor not in our Father's Fields, we shall labor for the Destroyer of Souls. Imagine the hurt in the soul of a young Hebrew lad who was raised in plenty in his father's house now having to feed swine.

***16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.*** When you are out of the company of God, no man will care for you. You end up eating food for the soul that is like unto the food of pigs. Of course, he remembered that his father still loved him regardless of how far away he drifted, but his tortured mind had lost the ability to see and understand clearly in this Far Country. He was lingering in a state of reprobation.

***17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!*** It should be noted that any Christian who departs from the Presence of their Lord is not in his right mind, and this poor youth is no exception. He has travelled a great distance from the love of his father, but his father's love knows no distance. His tortured brain had undergone a process of gradual deprivation and debauchery during this time of licentious living. It was necessary for him to suffer much, long and hard, in separation from the benefits of his father in order to penetrate his stubborn heart and spark his calloused spirit. But, he DID come to himself. He finally was forced to admit that all his dreams and fantasies were in ruins. He came to view, as we all must do apart from God, what a deplorable condition he had arrived at in his rebellion. Even the smallest little soul in our Father's House has plenty of daily bread, and more; yet, we who believed we could do better in a Far Country, are perishing without that Bread of Heaven common in our Father's House.

**18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.** Once we have come to the reality of our loss, we must resolve to return to our Father and confess our sinful disposition and living. We must face the reality that we are the most unworthy of all under God's Heaven. We are certainly not worthy, nor have we ever been, of being a son or daughter of the Most High God. Sins against our earthly fathers are also reckoned as sins against heaven. We will then be happy to be accepted as only hired servants in the great house we deserted. But God has no "hired servants."

**20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.** It is not enough to KNOW to do right – we must follow that realization with ACTION! We cannot make amends for our faithlessness in a Far Country – we must RETURN to the presence of our Father and confess our sins. The good father has felt the hurt of his son's absence deep in his heart as he has watched, day after day, that same dusty road upon which his son departed. Once, perhaps as evening shadows begin to fall, he spots a lonely fellow coming on that road. Though his eyes have grown dim with age, he unmistakably recognizes that this fellow is his dear son! He knows his gait and carriage even though the fellow is not riding a charger or dressed in the silken blouse he wore when he departed. He is rather dressed in rags and is filthy in his person. Even from a great distance away, he recognizes his son. God always recognizes those of us who wander from Him when He sees us on the road of return. Is that not a blessing of great joy? God will always have compassion on us when we return no matter how long our delay. Even though we are filthy in our sins and exude the terrible stench of the pigpen, He will embrace us and greet us with a Holy Kiss. Only a Father could love such a child, and He has done so for you and me.

**21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.** Here, the prodigal satisfies the demands of love and conscience. He confesses, not only his sinfulness, but his complete unworthiness. None are worthy to be the son or daughter of God, but we shall certainly be if we have received that saving Grace of Jesus Christ. We see that there has taken place a four-fold undertaking in the prodigal's return: 1) he came to himself and recognized his depravity; 2) He resolved to return to his father; 3) he arose and returned to his father in answer to his resolution; and 4) he confessed his dreadful behavior and worthlessness to his father. So must we do when we have separated ourselves from our loving Father!

**22 But the father said to his servants** (as if he did not hear his son's comments), **Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:** That 'best robe' represents the White Robe of Righteousness offered by Christ to all who come to Him. He will cover our sins and nakedness with that Robe which He has purchased with His own precious Blood. That 'ring' which the father gives the son is the same as that Signet Ring of Authority that a Sovereign gives to a subject to act in His Name and on His own Behalf. The Christian has great authority granted in the power of the Holy Scriptures themselves. What of the shoes? In ancient times, the first thing taken from prisoners captured on the battlefield was their shoes. Their shoes were taken to prevent their escape. Shoes represent liberty and freedom. In Christ, we have perfect Liberty. ".....where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." (2 Cor 3:17) God

our Father has covered our sins with that White Robe of Righteousness offered in Christ, given us Authority as believers to act on His behalf (having that same mind and will of the Father in our hearts), and given us perfect Liberty in Christ. The children of the Father have the complete free run of the home He offers. **23 *And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry*** There will always be a feast of celebration in heaven at the return of a prodigal. There was joy in heaven at the recovery of the little Lost Sheep; there was joy in heaven over the recovery of the Lost Coin; and there was exceeding joy in heaven over the return of the Lost Son. How great worth we are as children of God. He will never forget us, nor will He give up watching and waiting when we depart from Him in rebellion.

**24 *For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry*** It is in the nature of a heart to lament the loss of a thing once owned far more than the failure to acquire something much desired. It is sorrowful for a woman to desire a child but remain barren of children; but it is of far greater anguish to have a child and lose it. In a Far Country, away from God, we are dead as much as before we were ever born in Christ. But God is joyful at our return. He cannot bring us home in our state of sin and rebellion – that is a decision that the heart of the wanderer must make - to come home to God, to confess our sinfulness, and be restored. He will not own us in a Far Country, but He will never disown us when we have come home to Him.

The question that this Parable raises is too apparent to deny: have you wandered from your Father's home? Have you spent all of your resources in riotous living? Have you sunk to the level of the pigs in the sty? Have you come to the realization of your grievous apostasy? Have you resolved to return to you Father and confess your faults? Have you followed through with your resolution? Have you?

### **THE ELDER SON:**

Today's text covers the last half of the rich and memorable Parable of the Prodigal Son. There have been mixed and varied interpretations of its meaning and my own interpretation will not satisfy every facet of its meaning – for, like a well cut diamond, there are many facets to this portion of the Parable and each may be as true as the next. The hands and minds of men are vulgar and insensible when compared to the infallible and Holy Word of God, so we each will benefit in taking no man's word for meaning or measure without resorting to the Crystal Stream that flows from the Fountain of Living Waters – the Holy Bible itself, and with the Holy Ghost as an interpreter thereof.

At the outset, we might agree that the principles that rule in the Kingdom of Heaven are not worldly. There is no seniority of time and labors in that Kingdom. God is more concerned about the DIRECTION we are going and the PRESENT condition of our hearts than in the tireless amounts of labors performed by men's hands.

**25 *Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.*** Can you sympathize with this faithful son who has remained at his father's side while his younger brother fritted away half the wealth of his father in consorting with harlots and false religion (for harlotry is compared in God's Word to Idolatry)? He has not even heard that his younger brother has returned, so he is astonished at the sound of music and revelry coming from his father's house. No one even showed him the courtesy of sending for him to partake in the celebration.

Examine your own heart at this moment and answer: "Would you, too, not be offended?" He has labored throughout the heat of the day (and years). He has sacrificed much of his young years on his father's behalf. He is tired and weary, but now he hears the sound of celebration and party! **26 *And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.*** At the present, he is only curious, but soon he will be outraged. Would we not be as well?

**27 *And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.*** As we have stated often before, love is not divisible. It is whole cloth and cannot be divided between siblings. A mother loves the eldest just as dearly as the youngest and will never make a choice between the two. Her love is increased in exact amounts, and never diminished, to cover each child equally in showers of blessing. The same is true of fathers. The father has not killed the fatted calf in honor of his prodigal son, but in expression his own joy at the son's recovery. Please recollect the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin and the joy in heaven over their recovery. But here is revealed the joy of a father at the recovery of a LOST SON as if restored from death. Can you even imagine the great joy in the heart of the old man? Can you even imagine the joy in Heaven at the recovery of a son or daughter of God, who has wandered afar, yet returns in sorrowful contrition and repentance?

**28 *And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.*** I am afraid that I would have responded PRECISELY as this elder son. We are constantly mindful of unfair treatment, especially from those we cherish the most. Our hearts can never be as large as that of our Maker and Redeemer who bore all for miserable sinners. The marvelous thing is that God understands, and makes allowances for our weak spirits and faltering love. I find one salient and inexcusable fault with the elder son: he should also have been able to subdue feelings of jealousy and unfairness for the moment of reunion with a lost brother whom he has not seen for many, many days. The event of greatest importance (more importance than personal jealousy if familial love is the concerned) is that a lost BROTHER has returned. When I was a lad, I certainly resented the partial treatment extended to my younger brother for his tender years but, if he had gotten lost for ANY reason, I would have had at least as much joy at his being found as my mother and father would have had. Just as my father often explained to me of the reason the younger son must be treated with a special affection because of his youth, so the father here comes to the elder son with that same love that prompted the celebration to explain to him his feelings and reasons for joy. ***Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. 4 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.*** (Psalms 103:13-14) It is such a comfort that God understands even our weaknesses and cares for us nonetheless.

**29 *And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: 30 But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.*** It is altogether reasonable that the elder son, in view of worldly principles, would be taken aback by this expression of attention given an unfaithful son. It is not so much the love showered on the prodigal that bothers the elder son, but the seeming slight of love shown to one who has been, beyond doubt, the more faithful of the two in times past. The feeling of slighted treatment was comparable to that which the early Jewish believers felt when the gates of mercy and grace were thrown open to the Gentile nations. The Hebrews had been first to take up the Word of God – not by virtue of their

own goodness, but by the foreordination and will of God in establishing His people upon the earth. The Hebrew people had been privileged to maintain the oracles of God, to field prophets called by God, to build the Temple in Jerusalem. They could easily see their present blessing, but were blind to the greater plan of God in not limiting the promises of Israel to a single race of people. His plan was decided long before there was a Canaan, an Abraham, or even a Garden eastward in Eden.

The elder son is hurt to the core. His father has killed the **fatted calf**, the choice of his stock, for his prodigal son who has returned home. But the father has not so much as killed a kid goat for his elder son who has remained faithful. Please look beyond the limits of our selfish concerns and see the great generosity and grace of God in forgiving, always and fully, our past transgressions and rejoicing at the present contrition of a heart that returns to Him. We always look at the outward evidence, but God ALWAYS looks at the inward motive. ".....*the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.* (1 Sam 16:7) Is it not possible that the One who made the heart can also repair the heart that is broken? It is a strangely wonderful truth that God loves the broken heart more than the whole: *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.* (Psalms 51:17)

We all enter in this life with a heart full of imperfections. If we fail to confess those imperfections, we shall bear them to our graves, but only that which is broken needs fixing. This, the Pharisees failed miserably to grasp and placed themselves, for the most part, beyond the bonds of mercy. Have you known of your heart needing fixing? Have you taken it to the Master Heart Maker who only can restore that heart? *My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.* (Psalms 57:7) Please remember the depth of sin into which David, a man after God's own heart, sank; yet see what David can say after a trip to the Master. A heart, sure of itself and unaware of hidden imperfections cannot be 'FIXED.' Only a heart that is BROKEN can be FIXED! Do you have a broken heart that has been FIXED by God, our Maker?

**31 *And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.*** The good father, who loves his elder son every bit as much as the younger, acknowledges the elder son's faithfulness and devotion. I can imagine that he spoke with deep regard and affection as he placed his arm over the shoulder of the despondent one, just as God our Father comforts us when we believe we have been wronged. The elder son has lost NOTHING by remaining faithful to the father. In fact, all that the father has remaining belongs to the elder son. Not only has he retained his original inheritance from his father, but much has been added by years of labor and improvement. The younger, on the contrary, is destitute of any inheritance. He has squandered it away in a Far Country separated from his father. There is a stark lesson here for us. Even though we are pardoned by God and warmly received back into His loving care, our sins and disobedience have consequences of eternal impact. We are often unable to restore the loss and pain we have caused by our sins. Though forgiven, sin leaves scars. Look at the terrible scars of the whip, nails, and lance that our sins caused on the body of our dear Lord and Redeemer – and these were only the outward evidences of a terrible anguish He felt in His Spirit for us.

**32 *It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.*** It is always right and meet that we should rejoice in the reunion of one separated from his loved ones of the One who loves

more than heart can know. The elder son has done that which is expected and proper in serving his father these many years, yet, the son, who was lost, has come home. THIS is a true cause of rejoicing! We do not make a fuss over a friend who is continually by our side through hard times and good, but we DO make a fuss over a friend who has returned after a separation during which we believed him to be dead. Do we realize that we are all in a state of death and dying when apart from our Father God? Do you?

### *Rev Rick Reid of Saint Peter's Sunday Sermon*

We are happy to have a sermon from Reverend Rick Reid, minister of Saint Peter's, whose congregation is right at the Worldwide Headquarters of the Anglican Orthodox Church. Rev Rick has all the resources and challenges right at hand. I think you will enjoy this sermon.



### **Lost and Found**

"Your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found"

In our Gospel reading this morning (Luke's Chapter 15 verses: 11-32, **Jesus** tells the parable of the lost son, also known as the prodigal son (prodigal means *recklessly wasteful*), and it is one of His most well-known, and sometimes *most resented* teachings." To recap the parable; "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me my share of my inheritance that belongs to me. So the father did so."

"Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered everything in reckless living. After he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to suffer for something to eat. So he went and found work with one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed the swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods or stalks that the swine ate; but no one gave him anything."

"But when he thought about his situation for a while, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against God and you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and went to his father."



"But while he was still far off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against God and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry;

for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate." Sounds like a very familiar hymn...Amazing Grace.

"Now his older son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.'" "But the older son was angry and refused to go in. His father came out to get him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your commands; yet you never gave me a kid that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has squandered the good living that we all have worked hard to make, you kill for him the fatted calf!'"

"And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to happy and celebrate your brother's return, for your brother was dead, and is alive; ....he was lost, but now is found.'" (Luke 15:11-32)

Now, just like the lost son, many more prodigal sons, and daughters, are going to "return home to be forgiven of their sins by a loving and righteous Father.

It's called grace, and is why Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins, so that we could have eternal life

It seems, to some people, to be "unfair" to the always-righteous firstborn son who stayed at home and was steadfastly faithful and obedient to his father, while the younger son who ran off and squandered everything received a "second chance" and obtained his father's blessings, just like the firstborn son who never faltered. *Firstborn* is an important factor in both the parable, and the salvation of humanity.

The resentment in the minds of many seems to be that the father gave a sinner a "second chance," but what he really did was to *forgive a sinner who truly repented* after he learned his lessons the hard way.

Damnation is God's decision, not man's and is reserved for the incorrigible sinners who *absolutely refuse* to repent after correction, not for those in whom hope is yet alive, *even though they are presently dead*. As we shall see, the parable of the lost son has a far greater meaning.

The bible tells us that while his son was still a long ways off, the father saw him coming. What was the father doing? Waiting, hopefully and anxiously.

You have a vision of the father waking every morning and looking out the window just to see, "Is my son coming home?"

And then, one day, he sees a figure way down the road. And he wonders, "Is that my boy?"

As his son gets closer, he can tell from his build and the way he walks, because every father knows who his children are, we observe them all the time, "That's him! My son is back!" So what does the father do? He runs, something you don't do in an eastern culture. Grown men don't run. Older men were to be respected and they carried

themselves with dignity, but this father cannot wait another second to be reconciled to his son. And he looks up, there's his father, running with a smile on his face, yelling at the top of his lungs, "Welcome home! Welcome home! His arms are stretched out as he approaches and the father grabs his son and gives him a big hug. And the Bible says that he kissed him, in the Greek, it states "he kept kissing him." This is not a parable about honor, justice or merit. It's about a father's love, forgiveness, and it's never too late to come to the Father.

Many of you knew that God is the father in the story, and we at times are like this prodigal son. We sin, and rebel, and turn away from God. When we repent and turn away from our sin, and turn back to the Father, he runs to meet us. He's compassionate, he embraces us, he blesses us, he kisses us, and he celebrates with us. What a great Father we have. If God embraces a repentant sinner, we need to embrace them as well. If God welcomes them, we need to welcome them. If God has thrown his arms around them, we need to do the same.

Now some may say, "He doesn't deserve that!" But that's amazing grace. Grace is unmerited. Grace is undeserved. Paul's letter to the Romans tells us that it's the kindness of God that leads to repentance. This father is going to be kind and gracious to his son, and that kind of grace is going to continue to change him. It's the same kind of grace that caused him to come home. It will compel him to continue with his father.

This boy didn't ask for anything, the father just gave it. The father just gave it, and that's how God works with us. He gives things to people who don't deserve it. He's a God of grace. Grace is this amazing gift to a bunch of ill-deserving rebellious children who don't deserve it. And that's what the father does. Jesus said in: Luke's Gospel (15:7-10) I say unto you, that likewise, joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. We need to always remember that if we confess our sins, **He** is faithful and **just to forgive** us our sins.... and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### *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, expound the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.



### **Ninth Sunday after Trinity**

In II Corinthians 9:6-8, the apostle Paul noted that, "...he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (as it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.

Many Christians will find those verses at odds with what they have been taught about giving to the church. They might ask, "Aren't we supposed to give a certain amount?" In the recent past, I was part of discussion on this subject with several devout believers who strongly insisted that Christians are supposed to give a tithe or ten percent of their



earnings to the church. When asked how they arrived at that amount, they pointed to several Old Testament passages ranging from Genesis to Malachi.

It has been my experience that pastors will take one of the following positions regarding the subject of tithing. First, there are those who will approach the issue of godly giving with good intentions via their use of expressions such as, "Look at all the good we could do if everyone would only tithe the correct amount", or "God desires us to keep this or that program going so we need everyone to put in their proper share." The second position involves browbeating the congregation with accusations such as, "You are keeping back in selfishness, or "You are denying the Lord his due", and probably the worst, "You are stealing from God." In either case, there is the question of the amount apart from the percentage previously noted. Should the tither give a certain percentage of his "gross" pay or his "net" pay? Many congregants will simply comply with the wishes of their pastor because they want to avoid feelings of guilt. There is, however, a third position which a pastor can take and that involves following the prescription for giving as supplied in our epistle lesson.

To understand the biblical nature of giving, let us start with the tithe. There are two Hebrew words that have been translated as tithe or tithing. The first is maaser or "a tenth", and the second is asar or "to take or give a tenth." A popular passage that has been offered as an affirmation of tithing is that of Genesis 14:20 wherein we learn that Abram gave Melchizedek tithes of all the goods he had recovered from his defeat of Chedorlaomer. Notice that Abram did not supply Melchizedek with an annual gift of all that he had, neither was such a requirement placed upon him by the LORD. So this passage is not useful in defending the concept of tithing annually to your local church.

"But didn't the LORD command the Israelites to tithe?" Clearly the answer is yes, for in Leviticus 27:30 we are told that, ...all of the tithe of the land whether of seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD. God later clarified the purpose for the tithe in Numbers 18:24-32 as it was used to support the Levites who had no separate inheritance in the land of promise and were thus given a portion of all the tithes and offerings for their services as the priests of God.

Dr. Russell Kelly noted in a rebuttal to Pastor Paul de Jong on the subject of the tithe and tithing that, "...True biblical tithes were always only food from the farms and herds of only Israelites who only lived inside God's Holy Land... The increase was gathered from what God increased and not man's craft or ability." Dr. Kelly also noted that, "God did not command tithes from that which man produced, built... or earned through his own wisdom. Money from crafts and trade always existed in the Bible, but it was never included in the basic definition of 'tithe of food.'" And because God has placed no requirement for money as a tithe, so the aforementioned verses are not useful in defending the payment of such to the church.

Those who have taken the position that a Christian ought to engage in the Old Testament practice of tithing should examine the message of the apostle Paul in his epistle to the Galatians wherein he wrote, ... that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ... for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified (2:16). Tithing was a work under the law. It was a civil obligation— a requirement— for Jews to perform if they owned herds or farmed crops. The apostle warned the Galatians against the reasoning of the Judaizers when he wrote, O FOOLISH Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn from you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the

hearing of faith (3:1-2)?... For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. And the law is not of faith... Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us. . . (3:10-13).

As Anglican Orthodox Christians we know from Article VII of our Articles of Religion that, "... Although the Law given from God by Moses, as touching ceremonies and Rites, do not bind Christian men, nor the Civil precepts thereof ought of necessity to be received in any commonwealth; yet notwithstanding, no Christian man whatsoever is free from the obedience of the Commandments which are called Moral." And Article XXXVIII says, "... every man ought, of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability." The early twentieth century theologian and author, W. H. Griffith Thomas wrote concerning this article that, "The New Testament has three great principles of giving, and these call for careful attention and constant emphasis on the part of all who are required to teach. A man is to give according as God hath prospered him (I Corinthians 16:2); he is to give according to his ability (Acts 11:29); he is to give according to his heart's purpose (II Corinthians 9:7)... The New Testament is thus true to its genius in avoiding all references to a specific proportion like the Old Testament rule of the tithe. In harmony with the essential feature of Christianity as a religion of principle, not of rule, it lays the burden upon the enlightened spiritual mind to give "according to" what is possessed, pointing out that giving is one of the most definite and searching proofs of the reality of the Christian life (I John 4:20-21; 3:17-18)."

Consider once more the words of St. Paul in our epistle lesson for today in II Corinthians 9:6-8. Did you see within the text a command that Christians give out of necessity a tenth of their earnings? Those who endorse the tithe requirement might be surprised to learn that, like St. Paul, none of the other apostles wrote about tithing not because it was an accepted and obligatory practice, but precisely because it was not considered a requirement for membership in the Christian faith. Christ's free gift of salvation is open to all without cost. You do not have to pay an annual fee to be a Christian. St. Peter's response to Simon the sorcerer is applicable: ... Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money (Acts 8:20).

Given the preceding facts, why then do so many pastors preach on tithing when the New Testament is devoid of any passages requiring a church member to give a mandatory tenth or tithe to their local church? This question has multiple valid responses that range from simple ignorance of Scripture to down right greed for gain on the part of those within the hierarchy of the church. As to those who are operating in ignorance, I would admonish them to consult the scriptures. But for those who are in the latter range, I would rebuke in the strongest terms because those pastors are not right with God.

I remember in college overhearing a young ministerial student state in part that he couldn't wait to graduate from seminary so that he could pastor a large church and draw a large salary. I do not know if he ever changed his mind, but it was clear in mine that he regarded the Christian ministry as just another way to make a "fine" living. Sadly, I believe that young man's point of view has become more apparent in today's world.

Just look about us at the ever-increasing number of mega-sanctinasiiums which are as prevalent as Johnson grass down here in the South. They are full of bright lights; with pastors who are garbed in the trappings of the modern world, who receive immodest sums for their services, and who reside in near-palatial opulence that would rival the grandest potentate from ages past. Said churches have music which mirrors that of any modern concert hall. All these things are the lures by which the carnal and the unsuspecting are drawn within their synagogues of Satan (Revelation 3:9) to have their ears scratched and their desires sated (II St. Timothy 4:3-4). Naturally, all this entertainment and sensation costs money. So in order to fund their pastors, programs and endeavors, those churches have uniformly employed the tithe as an effective fund-raising technique.

We Christians should understand that the most legitimate and up-front way for a church to raise money is to solicit such from its members who have in times past given from their hearts, and not out of necessity or compulsion. Our Christian faith teaches us that God is our provider, and we must lean on him rather than on our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5). And so pastors and congregations ought to pray for the needs of their churches. God answers prayers including those regarding the provisioning of his church. But when he doesn't supply such provisions in the amounts that a particular board or pastor had in mind, then the leadership within the church will have to take another course of action.

Nobody likes the word "austerity." Shortages happen. Budgets must be trimmed. Sometimes God strips us of those things that we think are important so that we can then do the things he would have us do. Maybe it is time to put an end to those church-sponsored gatherings that do not further the gospel message. Maybe it is time for the church to heed the call of God and return to a purer faith, and a simple and more reverent form of worship where the congregation's focus is on him rather than on themselves and how they feel. Our Lord said, But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him (St. John 4:23).

Some may ask how a church can survive without a steady stream of funds? What about the light bill, the water bill, the insurance bill, the pastor's salary, as well as those of the church secretary, the music director, etc.? What about teaching and outreach materials? What about extra-ministerial activities? It should be understood that every church must address these points particularly if they have a building and pay their minister a living wage. That is why in these difficult economic times, the annual budget meeting can be a harrowing experience for clergy and vestries. Nevertheless, church boards and ministers, as well as congregants are all subject to the laws of economics. If the congregation has less income as a whole, then it follows that the church will have less. That is not a sin, or a case of greedy withholding; that's reality.

One of the gifts with which God has endowed mankind is the capacity for creativity. History tells us that human beings have crafted some really interesting methods for doing things, and that includes raising money. But when it comes to the church, it would be wise to follow God's dictates rather than turning a set-aside practice from the Old Covenant into a new and binding requirement upon those who are under the New Covenant, and all because it might accomplish a desirable financial end.

Folks, "the end does not justify the means." For example, Johann Tetzel took advantage of the pain and anguish which Medieval Christians felt for their deceased loved ones

who were believed to be in purgatory. He preyed upon their feelings by selling those hapless souls indulgences which were supposed to permit their loved ones to pass on to glory. Through these sales, he raised a lot of money for the Medieval Church mostly from the poor who were the least able to afford even the small amounts they offered up in the hope that what Tetzel had told them was true. I ask you, When a pastor attempts to press upon a believer the notion that not tithing is sinful, or that the believer is "stealing from God," isn't he acting much as Tetzel did?

God loves a cheerful, not a fearful giver, and there is little doubt that such tactics were created to engender fear. The fruits of such fearful giving may prop up a church budget, but at what cost? What about the twisting of God's word to mean something he did not intend? What about the effect upon the giver especially when he realizes that he has been deceived? Dear fellows in Christ, we are under grace and not the Law. We have been freed from the requirements of the Law apart from those things specified by our Lord Jesus Christ, and the apostles in their writings.

Godly folk understand the necessity for giving to support their churches. If we love God, then we will give cheerfully regardless of the amount. But whatever a person vows to give, that is between that individual and the Lord. If God has put it upon your heart to give a particular amount, then who is to say otherwise? And remember that whatever you decide to give— whatever you purpose before God— then give it with joy. You cannot out-give God, so trust in him to provide as he will, ... make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things may abound to every good work.

Let us pray,

**F**ATHER, we come before thy throne of grace in thanksgiving for all that you have given us; and we ask that you put upon our hearts to cheerfully give in such a manner, that those things which are necessary for our worship of thee, and our service to thee may continue unabated; for this we ask in the name of thine only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen*

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

*Bishop Dennis Campbell's Contribution – Not a Sermon this week*



### **What and Why in Morning Prayer**

Instead of a sermon today, we are going to take the time to look at the various parts of the order for Morning Prayer. It is always good to be reminded of why we do certain things, especially the more important things in life, like prayer and worship.

We have gathered for something very important, something that is so central to our being that without it it can truly be said our souls are dead. We have gathered to worship God. And we are going to go back through history, and we are going to worship God the way the Church has worshiped Him for more than 2,000 years, and the way Israel worshiped Him for thousands of years before that. We are going to worship liturgically. "Liturgy" means "the work of the people," and the intent of liturgy is to bring us together that we may worship God with one heart, one mind,

and one voice. A hymn has words and structure so many people can sing as one. Liturgy has words and structure so many people can worship as one.

Worship is vital to the Christian life. In worship we lay aside the things of earth to focus on God alone. In worship we give unto God the honour, reverence, love, and obedience we owe to our Lord and Saviour. Worship unites the Church, so we are never only individuals worshipping alone, but always part of the body of Christ serving God together in one everlasting concert of prayer.

Worship is a way of life. In one sense, everything we do is (or should be) an act of worship. We worship God with our work. We worship God by our actions in the home. We worship God by the way we treat others. All of these things are part of our service to God, and are to be conducted with an attitude of reverence and worship.

There are also certain times that are set aside specifically for worship. Sunday is a time set aside by God for worship. On this day He calls His people together for the formal worship services of the Church (Heb. 10:25). Scripture also shows that we should set aside times every day specifically for worshipping God. From the morning and evening sacrifices of the Old Testament to the daily prayers of the New Testament, we follow the examples of Abraham, Moses, Daniel, Anna, the Apostles, and even our Lord Himself, who opened and closed each day in worship.

The Anglican Orthodox Church continues our Lord's practice of daily worship. We begin our days with Morning Prayer, and end them with Evening Prayer. We follow a beautiful order of worship, with Bible readings and prayers that have been prayed by God's people for generations. Some people may be unfamiliar with our liturgy, so our purpose today is to make it more understandable, in the hope that its beauty and Biblical fidelity may be known and appreciated, and that you may find it more accessible and edifying.

### **Preparing to Worship**

Prior to the Processional, or, opening Hymn, we will spend several minutes in quiet prayer. We are in the presence of The Being who is far greater than anything we can imagine or understand. He is wonderful in His mercy and terrible in His wrath. Therefore it is important that we prepare our hearts for worship. Habakkuk 2:20 tells us to keep silence before Him. The same idea is found in Psalm 46:10, which tells us to be still and know that He is God. A major aspect of worship is this holy stillness before God, and an important part of the preparation for worship is putting on an attitude of stillness and waiting. Clothe your soul with reverence and humility as you come before His throne. Take a few moments to be still and quiet physically while you invite stillness and quiet into your soul. Let your mind be filled with quietness, and peace. Let God reach into your being. Be still, be quiet, be reverent, and know that God is God. This is a good time to locate the hymns, Scripture readings, and Collects for the day. Please do so quietly, as others are also in prayer.

### **The Opening Sentences, pages 3-5**

After the Processional Hymn, during which the ministers and others will proceed to the front of the church, the minister will read one or more verses from the Bible. We always come to God as needy people. We have hurts and problems and broken dreams and shattered hopes. We need Him to heal our souls and fix our lives. But He is God. He is great and mighty, and faultless. Will He receive us? Will He

stoop to hear our prayers? Will He bother to help us, small and weak as we are? Yes. He invites us to come to Him. He welcomes us with gentle words. We always conclude the Opening Sentences with the words from Philippians 1:2 and Ephesians 1:7: "Grace be unto you, and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ." "In whom we have redemption, through His blood, the forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace."

### **The Exhortation to Confession and the General Confession, pages 5-6**

From the very earliest times God's people have confessed their sins as part of the worship service. In the presence of God's infinite goodness we become acutely aware of our own faults and failures. We have neglected opportunities to do right, and we have done what we knew to be evil. We have hurt others, we have offended God, and we have done so with the full knowledge that we were doing it. We need to confess our sins and turn them all over to God's redemptive power. Without confession we can go no further into worship. Without confession the rest of our worship is empty to us and insulting to God. The Prayer Book calls this ancient prayer "A General Confession" because it confesses sin generally rather than specifically. But in private and family prayer, as well as in public worship, we can also confess our specific sins, either by observing a time of silent confession after the General Confession, or by inwardly confessing them "between the lines" as we outwardly say the prayer. "Wherefore I pray and beseech you... to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of heavenly grace."

### **The Declaration of Absolution, page 7**

Those who truly confess their sins and believe in Christ through Biblical faith, find in God a patient, loving Father who gladly forgives our sins. He willingly heals our souls and gives us His peace in our deepest being. A major point of the Bible is to declare that God freely forgives all who confess their sins and believe His holy Gospel. We note that the minister does not forgive sins. That power belongs to God alone. The minister simply declares, or, proclaims, the Good News that God forgives those who are truly in Christ. There is power in the knowledge of our forgiveness. It is peace to our souls to know our guilt is pardoned and our souls are freed from Hell. On that day when we stand before God on the other side of the grave, He will not cast us out of His presence because of our sins; He will welcome us into Himself because of our forgiveness through Christ.

### **The Lords' Prayer, page 7**

Now we call upon God as upon our Loving Father, praying the very words Christ gave to us in "the Lord's Prayer."

### **The Versicles and Gloria Patri, pages 7-8**

Since true worship is impossible unless God enables it, the versicles ask God to open our lips that we may show forth His praise. They are followed by a fervent expression of praise in the Gloria Patri. This is followed by another call, "Praise ye the Lord," and the response, "The Lord's Name be praised."

### **The Venite, page 9**

Venite exultemus Domino means "Come let us exalt [or, worship] the Lord," and is comprised of the first seven verses of Psalm 95, and verses 9 and 13 from Psalm 96..

This short canticle is a "Call to Worship." In a sense, everything we have been doing up to this point has been preparing us to enter fully into the heart of worship. We have heard God's words of grace. We have confessed our sins and opened our hearts to God. We have heard the promise of forgiveness to all who truly repent and unfeignedly believe His holy Gospel. We have prayed to Him as unto a loving and generous Father, and we have asked Him to open our lips that we may show forth His praise. In this way, the Liturgy has proclaimed the Gospel. It has told us of our sins, and of our need of God's forgiveness. It has led us to the Throne of Grace to confess our sins, and it has declared God's absolution and forgiveness of our sins through the cross of Christ. In the Liturgy, we have also professed our faith in Christ. We have recognised that our forgiveness allows us to call upon God as our God, and as our Heavenly Father, for we have been brought into the fellowship and enjoyment of God. So, thus far, the service has reminded us what God has done for us. It has been a worshipful recitation of the great story of Salvation through the cross of Christ.

The Venite brings us to a major turning point. From hence forth the service is about our response to what God has done; our response is, worship. So we sing His praise. We hear His Word. We seek Him in sincere prayer. We give our tithes and offerings, but most of all we give our hearts and selves to His service and love forever. The Venite calls and invites us to worship God. "O come, let us sing unto the Lord."

### **Reading and Hearing the Scriptures**

If worship is essential to the life of the soul, Scripture is essential to worship. You have already noticed that the Liturgy is filled with the Bible. It has so much Bible in it that it has been called the Bible in devotional form. We believe the Bible is the Word of God, and that it is the absolute authority for all that we are to believe about God, and how we are to serve and worship Him. Naturally, a major part of the Liturgy, then, is the reverent and attentive reading and hearing of Scripture. We read at least three passages of Scripture in Morning Prayer. First is the Psalm or Psalms appointed for the service, followed by the Gloria Patri. Next the "Lessons" are read. Usually the first will be in the Old Testament and the second will be in the New Testament. After each reading we give thanks for the Word by singing a short Psalm or song called a canticle. Reading and hearing the Scriptures is one of the most important parts of worship. God is speaking to us. Let us reverently hear the Word of God.

### **The Apostles' Creed, page 15.**

The last canticle is followed by an affirmation of the foundational doctrines of the Bible. This is done by reciting, in unison, a summary of Biblical doctrines called the Apostles' Creed. Let us affirm the truth of Scripture.

### **The Prayer Service**

On page 16 the one leading the service prays for you. It is a very short prayer, but it asks much. It asks God to give you a sense of His presence. It asks God to assure you of His willingness to hear your prayers. It asks Him to give you a sincere desire to seek Him with the very essence of your being, because that's what prayer really is. "The Lord be with you" is the leader's prayer that God will do these things for you.

In return, you pray for the leader, saying, "And with thy spirit." You are asking God to do the same things for the leader. This is followed by the invitation to prayer, "Let us pray."

Collect for the Day This prayer gathers and directs our prayers. It deals with the particular emphasis or doctrine of the day or season, and is always related to the Scripture Lessons for that Sunday. It is also said at Morning and Evening Prayer throughout the week. So, the Collect for the Second Sunday of Advent, on page 92, is prayed in daily prayers all week. Some Collects are to be prayed daily during an appointed season. Thus the Collect for the First Sunday in Advent, page 90, is to be said daily until Christmas Day. The Collects are found in pages 90-269 of the Prayer Book. Most of them are very ancient prayers which have expressed our faith through many generations.

Collect for Peace The Collect for the Day is followed by the daily prayers for Morning Prayer, beginning with the Collect for Peace found on page 17. This prayer has been in use in England for more than 1,400 years, but is much older than that. Reminding us that God is the author of peace, that knowledge of Him is eternal life, and that His service is perfect freedom, it helps us remember that peace comes not from our outward circumstances, it comes to us as the gift of God. In this Collect we ask Him to give us peace that we may serve Him.

Collect for Grace asks God to keep us from sin and danger, that all our doings may be righteous in His sight. It is a simple and earnest prayer that God will keep us from spiritual harm on the one hand, and in good works and holy living on the other.

Other daily prayers follow, including prayers for civil servants, clergy and congregations, the wonderful intercessory Prayer For All Conditions of Men, and a beautiful Thanksgiving and dedication to holy living. To these may be added other prayers, such as those on pages 35-53, The Litany, pages 54-59, or prayers on pages 587-600.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom page 20. John Chrysostom (349-407) was known for his Biblical knowledge and ability to preach clearly and faithfully. Archbishop of Constantinople in the later 300s, he was banished by the emperor for his fearless preaching. His prayer recognises that it is God who enables His people to make our common prayers to Him, and trusts God to answer our prayer in the way that will most help us know His truth in this world, and everlasting life in the next.

This prayer reminds us that, in Church, we do not pray in isolation; we make our "common supplications" to God. The same is true during the week. As we pray we are part of the voice of prayer offered unto God by the Catholic (Universal) Church. We who pray by the words and prayers of the Liturgy are especially aware that we pray with one another in the same "common" prayers each day.

The Grace, page 20 is an Apostolic blessing from 2 Corinthians 13:14. It closes the service of Morning and Evening Prayer as it has done for generations.

The Prayers, now completed, are followed by:

The Offering and Doxology

The Sermon<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> As those who attend The Church of the Faithful Centurion will note, we say the Collect for the Day directly after the Creed, then have our Sermon and Offertory at that point. We feel the service flows well



The Recessional, or closing hymn, during which the ministers, acolytes, and choirs will proceed to the back of the church building. When the hymn is completed a minister will conclude with prayer, after which the acolyte will extinguish the candles, and the minister will say, "Here endeth the order of Morning [Evening] Prayer.

One of the most striking things about the Liturgy is its simplicity. Its words are direct, earnest, and simple. They are not flowery embellishments designed to please people. They are the earnest words of people who truly love God and truly mean what they say in worship. Whether offered in great cathedrals with professional choirs, in country chapels with out of tune pianos, in small rooms never intended to serve as a church, or in homes with no music or added hymns, the Liturgy offers up our worship and prayers to God with dignity and sincerity. And since it is taken directly or indirectly right from the Bible, we know we are worshiping according to His will. Your worship has pleased God.

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+Dennis Campbell

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### *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
4 August 2012	<b>Opportunity Available – Tenth Sunday after Trinity</b>
14 August 2012	<b>Opportunity Available – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity</b>
18 August 2012	<b>Opportunity Available – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</b>
25 August 2012	<b>Opportunity Available – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>
1 September 2012	<b>Opportunity Available – Fourteenth 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.

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that way and it is consistent with the order in Holy Communion. There is actually no rubric driven position for the Sermon in Morning or Evening Prayer. Many follow Bishop Dennis' format, some do not.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Updating the Team**

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

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

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

### **Major Disaster**

*Eighty people were killed as the result of a train wreck in northern Spain, Bishop of Spain Eduardo Dominguez Vilar asks the entire Anglican Orthodox Communion to join him in prayer for those who have lost their lives and have been injured in this tragedy, as well as for their families who are deeply affected by their family members deaths and injuries. Please pray for the full and speedy recovery of those injured, for the families and friends of the departed who remain behind and for those who are involved in the rescue and cleanup efforts.*

### **Travel**

No known travel this week.

### **Birthday**

*Emma Langstaff celebrated her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday 26 July 2013.*

*Ryan Hopkins celebrated his 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday 14 July 2013.*

*Sara Simmons celebrated her 61<sup>st</sup> birthday 2 July 2013.*

### **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**

*Jason Naylor and his lovely wife Marla* are currently stationed in Southwest Asia, probably through the end of 2013. Pray for their continued safety and a reasonably tolerable stay in that part of the world.

*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 and about to leave for Okinawa for a second short tour. Please pray for this new assignment 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**

*Colonel George Everette "Bud" Day* passed away on 27 July 2013, after a long and hard fought battle with cancer.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/29/us/col-bud-day-vietnam-war-hero-dies-at-88.html>

<http://www.colonelbudday.com>

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2013/07/28/bud-day-vietnam-mccain/2593839/>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bud\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bud_Day)

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/col-bud-day-medal-honor-recipient-dies-88-19797029>

<http://www.familysecuritymatters.org/publications/detail/united-states-medal-of-honor-citations-us-air-force-major-george-e-bud-day-vietnam-war>



We were blessed to have Bud Day as our leader, our friend and our fellow warrior -- what an amazing warrior and patriot. Bud has been an inspiration to all of us for years, this changes nothing. He is well at peace with our Lord.

*Hal Sperber* passed away the afternoon of 24 July 2013, following Thelma, his loving wife by a month. Please give thanks for Hal's time here on earth and pray in particular for strength and guidance for their son Roger who was the primary person taking care of Hal and Thelma, as well as the rest of his family who will of necessity remain behind. Pray for the love of God to stay foremost in their hearts.

*Thelma Sperber* passed away the afternoon of 23 June 2013 after a long downhill

existence. Please give thanks for her time here on earth and pray for her son Roger who has been taking care of her, as well as the rest of the family.

*Beth* left for home on 20 July 2013, after a hard fought battle with brain and lung cancer. She is beyond pain now and with the Lord. Her family gives thanks for all those who prayed both for her and them. They ask your prayers that they might adjust to the temporary separation.

*Reba* left for home about 0500 on 12 July 2013, after time with her family in particular for her daughter Lynn with whom she lived and her son in law Bill. Please give thanks for her time on earth and pray for the love of God to stay foremost in their hearts.

*Pat* had a massive heart attack on Sunday 7 July 2103, and died enroute to the hospital. Pat was the president of the Royal Canadian Legion. He was a true "officer and a gentleman." It was a privilege getting to know him in my role as Chaplain. He recently shared with me that he was reading through the Old Testament. Pat had connections with the Mormons and Free Masons. Please pray his surviving family members will look to the Lord for their salvation and comfort in the midst of sorrow.

*Rev David*

*John Bylo* passed away the evening of 27 June 2013 after a brief fight with pneumonia after radiation treatment then surgery for esophageal cancer. Please give thanks for his time here on earth and pray in particular for his wife Debe and their family.

John was a Rev Canon in the Anglican Episcopal Church on the staff of St. George's Anglican Church, Ventura, CA. He also has worked diligently in theological education and church planting in the Southwest, and so was appointed Missionary Canon with Special Responsibility for the States of California, Nevada, and Alaska in December 2010.

*Bishop George Connor, AEC*

### *Nearing the end of their time here on earth*

*Saundra* is in ICU with congestive heart failure after a heart operation. She is aged and frail. Saundra is near the end of her time here on earth. Please pray for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Saundra and her family who will of necessity remain behind. 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*

*Pat* has been under treatment for colon cancer for sometime. He has had major complications the last few days and your prayers will be appreciated by family and friends.

*Sasha* a young lady with a husband and two children had diagnosed with breast cancer whose cells have spread. It would appear there is no viable treatment at this time. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that her remaining time here on earth might be good. Help *Sasha* and her family, particularly her husband, put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry. Right now she is "comfortable on borrowed time." *Sasha* is grateful for all who pray for her and asks you continue to pray for her remaining time here on earth.

*Dorothy* had pneumonia, on checking her lungs they found tumors which permeated the lung area. Further investigation found a primary site in the colon, with the lung being secondary. It would appear there is no viable treatment at this time. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that her remaining time here on earth might be good. Help *Dorothy* and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

*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.

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.

### ***New Members!***

*Austin* was recently born with health issues. His family cannot take him home until he is healed.

*Trent Joseph Hofmann* has joined the world and mother Gabby is doing well. The whole family thanks you for your prayers.

### ***Surgery***

*Kathy Cardin* is due to have surgery to remove a cyst on her liver. Please pray for peace of mind while she awaits the surgery.

*John* will have a Vitrectomy; to address what seems a macular pucker, suck out some "gel" and thereby to marginally improve his vision in his left eye. This will be done on Friday 21 June 2013. He and his family will appreciate your prayers.

*John* will undergo surgery on Friday 31 May 2013. It is anticipated he will spend an additional 10-12 days at the hospital and then 6 weeks in recovery at home. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that John and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*Dave Pressey*, a bishop with the Anglican Episcopal Church, one of our close fellow jurisdictions, had cataract surgery; his retina tore and he had emergency surgery on Memorial Day. He still has only very blurred in his eye. Please pray for healing for his retina and for peace of mind for Dave and his family.

*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***

*Laurie* has been ill for two years and was admitted to the Emergency Room the night of 23 July 2013, for dehydration. She received a CAT scan, which turned up a spot on her lung. Laurie is an oncology nurse and fears the worst. Please pray for peace of mind for Laurie and 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

*Mark Wilson* was hospitalized with stomach problems. They turned out to be a set of very bad ulcers, for which he is grateful as they are eminently treatable. He is out of the hospital and recovering. Please give thanks for the good result and pray he will be able to follow the medical advice.

*Georgia* has liver and pancreatic cancer. The doctors are evaluating whether to do surgery and how to tackle the disease. Georgia is a faithful Christian and she will appreciate your prayers. 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 Georgia and her family.

*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 has been undergoing several stages of chemotherapy, which thankfully have shrunk the cancer. They had hoped to operate, but cannot as it is too dispersed. But, there appear to be drugs which may successfully treat the remaining cancer. Sarah had hoped to be through the side effects, but is grateful for the opening of a new door. Please pray the chemotherapy will work and Sarah can tolerate the treatment. They trust all will work out in the end and ask God's help for the interim. They ask 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*

*Jack Langstaff* has now taken over the Chicken Pox his lovely sister Eve acquired at Disneyworld. He is thankful to be home in Perth, Western Australia. He asks that you pray for a mild case and a full and rapid recovery.

*Joanne* has begun kidney dialysis as a result of kidney failure due to extensive chemotherapy. Additionally she cares for an adopted drug addicted baby who is now nine years old. Please pray for her to keep her faith, to let the Lord carry her worry and concern and to give her strength. Pray also for those treating her that they might pay attention and do their best.

*Mr. N. Anand* is in the hospital and is seriously ill. He is being encouraged to pray for repentance of his sins and to depend upon our dependable God for a cure and recovery of his health. Pray that he will be a strong witness for Christ.

*Jacob* has been going through some dental procedures and has some pain and aggravation with the numbness. Please pray for comfort and strength for him, as well as for guidance for the medical team treating him that they might pay attention and do their best.

*Jean* fell and broke her ankle in three places. She will be in the hospital for rehabilitation for the next 6 weeks. Please pray for comfort and strength for her, as well as for guidance for the medical team treating her that they might pay attention and do their best.

*Bud and his wife* for their continued welfare and enthusiasm. Bud has been advised of an aneurism in his heart of a size not mandating immediate surgery. This comes at a time when he has sole care of his wife who recently broke two vertebrae and thereafter sustained pneumonia.

*Virginia* has Sinus and Allergy problems giving her severe problems. Pray that the Doctor will discover why it continues and find a cure.

*Steve Thornell* had a brain aneurysm which was found before it burst. He is home from the hospital and working hard on recovery. He lacks energy from seven days in

the hospital. His doctor told him he has to make serious life changes. One of the two main arteries in the back of the head is now completely closed. He must take blood thinners, he has thick blood and recent chemotherapy made it worse. Steve has always operated at 110 percent, he needs help to slow down. Please pray for trust in the Lord and a full and rapid recovery. Pray for peace of mind for Steve and his family.

*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 continue to 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 daughters who are now taking over her care.

*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! 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! 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. 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.

*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*

*Joyce* broke her left leg and sprained her right foot in a fall and had surgery the morning of 24 July 2013. She asks you to give thanks for the surgery having gone well and asks you also pray for her continued healing, she will be spending several weeks her right leg in a walking boot and several months with her left leg in a cast.

*Bill* had malignant mole removed. He gives thanks for the successful surgery and asks for prayers for the upcoming plastic surgery that is required.

*Mike* was very ill in hospital. He is doing much better now and his family asks you to give thanks for the miraculous recovery. Mike is a veteran who has served his country when she called. Please pray he will open his heart to God so He can make Mike's crooked road straight and pull him towards the summit rather than to the pit.

*Pastor Roy* underwent full knee replacement surgery Monday 10 June 2013. Please give thanks for a successful surgery and pray for a full and rapid recovery.

*Jo* an elderly woman has had a spinal disk infection and been on antibiotics for a long time. Jo was getting better but had a downward spiral. She has now recovered to the point she has been able to get out of the hospital. Please give thanks for this wonderful development.

*Mike Wysocki* returned home from once in a life time fly-cruise-fly Around the World in 41 Days trip that almost turned into a end of life time trip. Mike caught pneumonia and his left eye has been identified with a highly contagious infection. He is out of the hospital, home and working on recovery. After a hard hitting drug course, Mike has vision back in his eye and the pneumonia is almost

gone. Please give thanks for the great progress and pray for a full and rapid recovery.

*Eden* (2) is doing much better now and seeing a specialist for her stomach problem. Please give thanks for the progress and pray for peace of mind and trust in God for her and her family as well as guidance for the medical team treating her.

*Jim's* infected blister on the bottom of his foot has apparently healed without the infection getting into his blood stream or compromising his lungs or heart. Please give thanks for the great result and pray he will be able to come home soon.

*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 final 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. Brian's throat seems to be healing better and he can eat some again. Brian is gaining strength, please give thanks for this. 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 by the end of July 2013.

*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.

*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.

### **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**

*Doug* recently became unemployed from his job of 18 years. He has been applying for jobs, but unable to get one at this time. His wife is working; this is not enough for the family. Please pray he will find employment with a firm that will be able to use his considerable skill and hard work to benefit both the firm and the family.

*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. Please pray for *Lorna's* healing and guidance on how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves.

### *Guidance*

*Beth* is suffering from ungodly treatment in her marriage. Please pray God will guide her in her behavior, actions and thoughts that she might be able to lead her husband to God so her marriage might prosper to the benefit of them.

*Brandon* a young man from a Christian family who married a year ago and almost immediately became estranged from his family. As a result he has had a serious problem with keeping the civil law. Please pray for *Brandon* that he will return to the Lord and the many problems will be eventually settled. Pray the hurt he has caused so many will be helped with our Lord's care and love.

*Dennis* has some decisions to make and will appreciate our Lord's guidance.

*Earl* to read and understand Scriptures he has been given.

*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**

*Eve Langstaff* gives thanks for getting over the Chicken Pox in record time so she and her dad Paul could rejoin their family in Perth, Western Australia.

*Paul, Emma, Jack and Eve Langstaff* give thanks for safe, albeit very long travel home to Perth, Western Australia from their round the world trip.

*Dustin* was facing difficulty in his civilian employment pressure from his supervisors at civilian employment as a result of serving as a National Guardsman. A senior supervisor was made aware of Dustin's issues with his immediate boss and he stepped into the situation. Now, Dustin has a pay raise and a new immediate boss who is more sympathetic to his service in the National Guard. He is thankful for all the prayers. Please give thanks for the great result and pray for continued understanding for the supervisors of the good Dustin is doing for our country and for Dustin to see ways to minimize the impact on his work so everyone can benefit.

Please give thanks for *Robert* who seemed moribund returning back to his family and pray for his complete recovery

### **AOC Congregations**

*Saint Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Orthodox Church* is under a lot of stress. We all are, but they need even more prayer. Rev Roger Jessup, their wonderful minister, is pressed by the duties of a primary care giver, in addition to all the worries of this world. They have one of their family's primary breadwinners who will be soon unemployed, absent His intervention. Roger's niece will lose her job at the end of the year when her tech center shuts down. As Rev Roger said so eloquently, "We must pray for those who mean us harm and deprive us of our property are our enemies: Our LORD has so commanded us." We must pray they will see light and cleave to it while turning their backs on the Prince of this World. Equally important, we must pray that the Lord will raise up a political leader from among us as He has done in the past. Pray also for trust in God for each member of the parish and for them to find economic relief.

*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.

### **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.

### *Armed Forces & Contractors*

Airman Donny Patton (Bagram AB, Afghanistan), Jordan (USMC – Fleet Marine Force - Pacific), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator – New Jersey), 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.

### *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>
4 August 2012	Dru Arnold – Tenth Sunday after Trinity
11 August 2012	Dru Arnold – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
18 August 2012	Dru Arnold – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
25 August 2012	Dru Arnold – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

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

4 August 2012 – Tenth 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**

11 August 2012 – Eleventh 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**

18 August 2012 – Twelfth 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**

25 August 2012 – Thirteenth 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**