



Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Report

Today was the Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity Sunday. Sunrise bright blue skies and nice weather with a temperature of 49°F; which rose to a toasty 74°F by the end of church under those same clear skies. With no one on travel, the lovely weather brought three out to worship our Lord!

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!

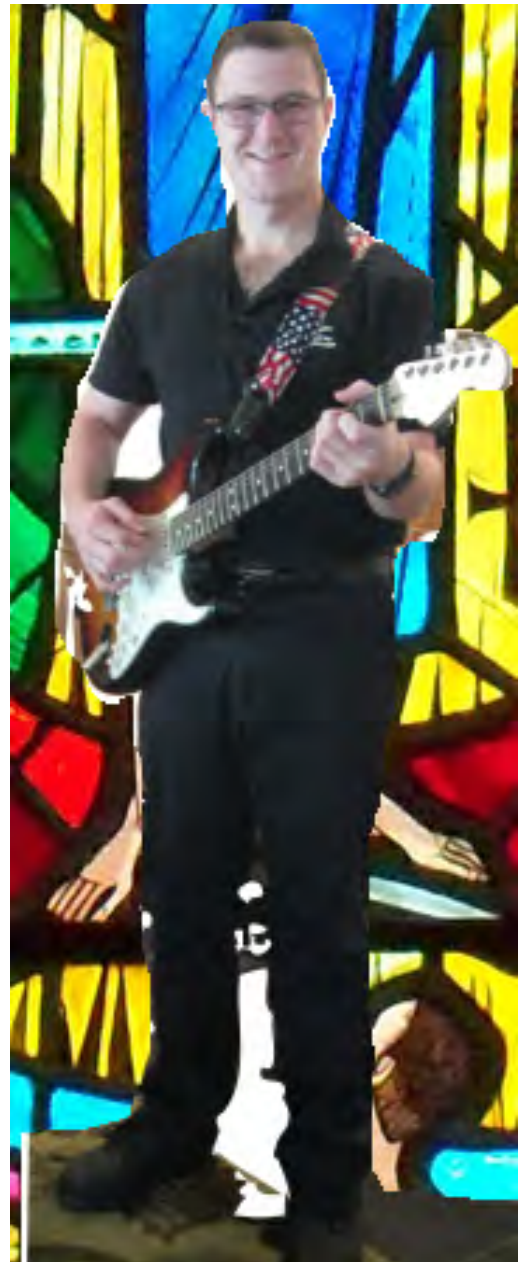
Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.

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. Some from Bishop Jerry, many from Rev Bryan Dabney, a few from other places, some from Rev Geordie



Menzies-Grierson, but overall mostly from Bryan. He always has a few great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

‘Charity’ now means simply what used to be called ‘alms’—that is, giving to the poor. Originally it had a much wider meaning. (You can see how it got the modern sense. If a man has ‘charity’, giving to the poor is one of the most obvious things he does, and so people came to talk as if that were the whole of charity. In the same way, ‘rhyme’ is the most obvious thing about poetry, and so people come to mean by ‘poetry’ simply rhyme and nothing more.) Charity means ‘Love, in the Christian sense’. But love, in the Christian sense, does not mean an emotion. It is a state not of the feelings but of the will; that state of the will which we have naturally about ourselves, and must learn to have about other people.

Jack Lewis
Mere Christianity

But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine.

Saint Paul
Letter to Titus 2:1

Repentance, then, is the great, immediate, and pressing duty of all who hear the gospel.
Rev. Charles Hodge
19th century American theologian and author

The gospel will not cause peace and agreement wherever it comes. We are not to think it strange if the gospel rends families asunder and causes estrangement between near relations. It is sure to do so in many cases because of the deep corruption of man's heart. So long as one man believes and another remains unbelieving, so long as one is resolved to keep his sins and another desirous to give them up, the result of the preaching of the gospel must be division. For this the gospel is not to blame, but the heart of man. There is a deep truth in all this which is constantly forgotten and overlooked. Many talk vaguely about unity and harmony and peace in the church of Christ as if they were things we ought always to expect and for the sake of which everything ought to be sacrificed. Such persons would do well to remember the words of our Lord [in St. Matthew 10:34- 38].

JC Ryle
19th century Anglican bishop and author

Our job is to give people not what they want, but what we decide they ought to have.
Richard Salent
20th century American media executive and former president of CBS News

The Republicans do not know the uses of victory.

L. Bryan Dabney, Sr.
20th century lawyer and bibliophile

To know what is right and not do it is the worst form of cowardice.

Confucius
6th and 5th century BC Chinese scholar and author

The only reason for a government service is precisely to provide financial support for an operation that is otherwise unsustainable, or else there would be no point in the government's involvement at all.

Llewellyn Rockwell, Jr.
20th and 21st century chairman of the Ludwig von Mises Institute

Ingratitude is the basis of all evil.

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

Thomas Jefferson

18th and 19th century American patriot and president

Propers

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

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

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 Feast, 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 the Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity can be found on Page 220-222:

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

LORD we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Dru Arnold read the Epistle for today, which came from Saint Paul's letter to the Philippians beginning at the Third Verse of the First Chapter. Writing to the church in Philippia, Paul sends his greetings letting them know he has been praying for them constantly. He tells them that the good work God has begun in them will surely continue until Christ returns to them. Paul tells them he prays that they will find more and more joy in following the will of God. Continually reminding people of the joy of being born a new person, Paul prays that their "love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and



in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.”

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the tender mercies of Christ Jesus. And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

Rev Jack Arnold read the Holy Gospel came from the Twenty-Eighth Chapter of the



Gospel according to St. Matthew beginning at the Twenty-First Verse. On the subject of confession, repentance and forgiveness, knowing the rabbis had ordained forgiving one's transgressors three times Peter asked Jesus, "Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven." Knowing Jesus as he did, Peter no doubt expected Jesus to say more times than three, but 490 may have been somewhat more than he expected. In one of the more important stories in the Bible concerning God's forgiveness of us and our obligation to forgive others, Jesus went on to liken the kingdom of heaven to a king, who was balancing his accounts. He found a servant who owed him, in today's terms, a million dollars. The man had no money, but promised to pay and begged for mercy rather than have himself and his family sold into slavery as the law allowed to repay the debt. The king forgave him the debt

and set him free. Upon release, the man being reminded of his debts, began to attempt to collect from those who owed him. The first debtor he came across owed him \$10.00 and had it not. The one who had been forgiven cast the \$10.00 debtor into prison. The king found out and bye, bye.

The quote is - Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Not - Do unto others before they do unto you.

Peter said unto Jesus, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But

forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow-servants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellow-servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow-servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow-servant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Sermon – Reverend Jack Arnold - Time and Action

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

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

LORD we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Collect we ask the Lord to keep His household (that would be us) in continual godliness (that is to keep Him as our leader and follow Him), so that with His Help we can have as smooth a path as practical and serve Him in happiness.



Saint Paul follows this same thought in his Epistle when he thanks the Philippians for their fellowship and talks about how they in the bond through Christ have strengthened his faith as a result which enabled him to continue doing his good works for the Lord. In this same way our friends in the AOC, strengthen our faith as we tell others about the good news of our Lord and the faith in which we all share. The more we love the Lord, the more it will show through in our actions and our judgment. So let us keep loving the Lord, so that our actions and judgment will align with the Lord's!

Which brings us to the point of the Gospel, in which Christ tells Peter about forgiveness and how we must be ever patient with our fellow humans, and if they are repentant grant them that forgiveness, no matter how many times they might err and vex us. It doesn't matter if we want to or not, if they are repentant then we must forgive them, regardless of how we really feel. If they are truly sorry for their sins, then God will forgive them. We are not forgiving them ourselves, but informing them God has

forgiven them for their sins. We can forgive them for personal trespasses against us, but through God's power, only He can grant absolution of our sins, not us. I do not remember Christ telling Peter humans have the power to forgive sins, like the Roman Catholics claim they have, but rather that God must forgive sins, but we can tell others that God has forgiven them. It is more of an announcement of God's forgiveness, then the actual act. God has done the actual acting of forgiveness, but it falls upon us to tell people about it.

The parable illustrates what happens to those who are forgiven, but yet turn around and do not forgive their neighbor (in this case, a debtee.) for their sins and have thus abused their forgiveness from Our Lord, and will find himself in a very poor spot in the life hereafter. Let us not be like that fellow, but let us forgive our neighbor, if he is truly sorry and willing to repent and start the friendship, and turning a new leaf so to speak.

The Collect's prayer the Collect, Epistle and Gospel tie together, laying out, detailing and reinforcing the same message, ultimately. We have to be willing to forgive others, tell them about God's forgiveness, and not turn around and commit the grave error of not forgiving others as God has forgiven us for our sins. We have to act more like God everyday, though we are not perfect. If we try our utmost best, then that is all we can do.

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 - Forgiven and Unforgiving
Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity
27 October 2013, Anno Domini

The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity *The Collect.*

LORD we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



The Epistle for today comes from Saint Paul's letter to the Philippians, the First Chapter beginning at the Third Verse:

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the tender mercies of Christ Jesus. And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

This week's Holy Gospel comes from the Twenty-Eighth Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew beginning at the Twenty-First Verse:

Peter said unto Jesus, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, *I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow-servants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellow-servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow-servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow-servant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.*

Reading the last part of the Prayer of Collect today, one might be led to believe that the first aim of the Church is to serve God in good works; but that assumption misses the central point. It is God's Holy Ghost that keeps the Church centered on God's will and purpose, and maintains the Church in godliness. Our efforts at 'being good enough' always fail of accomplishment. Only in its dependence upon the Providence and protection of God can the Church be free from all adversities. It is when the heart of the Church is centered upon God's perfect will that it can be devoutly given to good works. The good works of the Church are the fruit that issues from sound faith and doctrine. Without faith, we are totally incapable of good works. We must be God-Like if we are His children. That quality enables us to forgive sins against us even as we are forgiven.

Paul echoes the sentiment of the Prayer Book Prayer of Absolution in assigning whatever good work that has ensued from his preaching to be solely to the glory and keeping of God. The officiate at worship in the Anglican Church does not forgive a single sin or absolve a single soul of sin. He merely pronounces that it is the will of God to forgive all who earnestly repent. The arrogance of Rome has led to the ungodly error of believing that the priest can forgive or absolve sin. The Pharisees challenged Jesus when He forgave the man with palsy of his sin. They said, "Only God can forgive sins." The Pharisees were right – only God can forgive sins. Their tragic mistake was in failing to recognize Christ as God Himself. When you think of it, how can a sinner forgive sins of other sinners – and, of course, ministers are sinners, too? It is reprehensible that a pretentious minister would ever claim that authority which belongs ONLY to God.

It is very timely that our Gospel text today will address forgiveness for it is a component of every worship service, but also of everyday life for the Christian. So many errors have grown up around the law of forgiveness, and many are deceived by blind guides who urge forgiveness of every trespass against us even when the offender does not ask. If a criminal broke into your home and began murdering every member of your household beginning with your tender young daughter, would you forgive him with each additional murder, or would you take action to defend your family by neutralizing the murderer? It is absolute nonsense to preach, or believe, that we must go about simply forgiving every cruel act of the wicked. This false teaching has led to a sterile American church in which no discipline or defense can be possible against the ungodly among us.

This fact is so clearly and unmistakably brought out in our Gospel text. Peter, seeking to appear quite pious and proper, asks the Lord: "Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times?" Seven is considered a very divine and complete number, so Peter chooses this number to gain favor to himself. He believes that he is being over-generous in his charity to forgive. The answer Christ returns is one which most probably shocked, not only Peter, but all those other disciples listening. Jesus responds: "***I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.***" Well, this number is very great, and made up of two perfect multipliers: $7 \times 10 \times 7 = 490$. Please do not get bogged down with counting how many times you have forgiven your neighbor until you reach this magic figure – that is not the meaning. A talent was of an enormous value, and every sin is of enormous magnitude. King David says that his sins were more than the hairs on his head – and David was not bald! ". . . *mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me.*" (Psalms 40:12) The meaning which Christ conveyed was that there should be an indefinite and limitless number of times that we must grant forgiveness to those who seek it. There is a reason for this large number which I will explain later. If we forgive as many as 490 times, forgiveness will become an imbedded habit of life (as it should be).

I saw a very erroneous and misleading quote on Facebook the other day which showed a large man pointing at his young child and saying: "You must forgive everyone their sins whether they ask for it or not!" What a lie from Hell. This idea is not Godly and nowhere found in Scripture. Jesus uses a parable of two different men to illustrate the real nature of forgiveness – one of a King who forgives a servant, and of the servant who does not forgive.

Before getting into this account of the King and the ungrateful servant, let us consider, seriously, the nature of forgiveness that God has granted to you. When you fully confirmed, or accepted, Christ as your Lord and Savior, you prayed for

forgiveness of all of your sins. God did, at that very moment, forgive you of all of your sins – but not a moment before your repentance of them. There must have been a very large multitude of sins for which you were forgiven – certainly a number exceeding 490. Since that time, unless you are a very exceptional saint (an I doubt you are), there have been untold scores of sin for which you have repented and been forgiven: perhaps scores, perhaps hundreds, perhaps thousands? More like thousands, I would say. But God has forgiven you each sin of which you have repented. Now let us look at the example Jesus gives in the Parable:

1) The King and His Debtor:

23 *“Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. 24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.”*

Who do you suppose the King represents in the above passage? It is, of course, God. Who do you suppose was the servant? It was Jerry, Bob, Betty, Paulette, Richard, Donald, and all who call upon the Name of the Lord. We are all a part of every Word that the bible speaks – either good or bad. There will come a time when the books are closed and accounting made, friend, of our lives. God will review our account and decide if our debts have been either paid, or delinquent. May I remind you that your sins are ENORMOUS! But God’s grace is sufficient to cover all through the redemption made available through the sacrifice of His only Begotten Son. Now, I will tell you that ten thousand talents will not begin to number your sins, or mine. But ten thousand talents represent a grievous debt of billions of dollars in our contemporary society. It is a figure that no man can pay. Is there any way that we can make amends for our sins to repay God for the blood of His Son shed on the cross for them? Is it not a grievous number of sins? This servant to which the Lord makes reference had racked up an enormous debt which he could not possibly pay. The proper punishment for not paying one’s debts was imprisonment and his family sold into slavery until the debt was paid. Can you pay such a debt from the prison of Hell? Can we keep the law so perfectly that the King will not find a debt on our account sheet?

The servant was frantic with grief and hopelessness. There being no possible means of repaying the debt (of sin), what did the servant do, and what COULD he do? He had no recourse except that of begging mercy through repentance. **26** *“The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.”* Have mercy on me, Lord. Forgive my great shortcomings (my sins) and I shall change. Have you come to the point of knowing your only recourse was to throw yourself down before the Throne of God’s Grace and beg forgiveness – not from a priest, but from God? How does the Lord respond to such tears of repentance? **27** *“Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.”* This act of the King (God) is not exceptional, but made available all whose burdens of sin have become unbearable. He did not simply grant a probationary release, but a permanent forgiveness of ALL debt. What a relief it must have been to have been relieved of such a burden of debt – for the servant, and for you and me, when we came to Christ! Please note that forgiveness was not granted until it was pleaded for. How should we respond afterwards?

2) The Forgiven Debtor and the Unforgiven:

How soon does the dog return to its own vomit and the washed pig to wallowing in the mud! *"But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.* (2 Peter 2:22) The nature of a dog and a pig remains the same regardless the provision made for them. A reprobate sinner may feign the repentance necessary before God. But, his old nature shall return unless he has truly been made a new creature in Christ.

Did this forgiven servant amend his thinking after being forgiven? 28 *But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow servants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.*" He was greedy when he begged for mercy of the King, and his darkened heart is yet filled with greed – a hundred pence was a pittance compared to even a single talent; but it must be said that the forgiven servant at this point has no obligation to forgive the debt. That obligation will be made in the next verse: 29 *"And his fellow servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all."* Suddenly, the circumstances have changed. The same appeal made by the forgiven servant to the King is now being made to him. How he responds will determine his standing with the King (God). Will he freely forgive as he was forgiven? 30 *And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.*" First of all, just as we, or a priest, cannot forgive or absolve sin, so can we neither condemn any to the same Hell from which we have been so graciously saved. What abject ingratitude. Once forgiveness is asked for, out of a sincere heart, we have no choice but to forgive. And, just as God does, we should remember the debt no longer that we have forgiven. Make no mistake; the eyes of God are everywhere. His Holy Angels also report directly to Him of every transgression of man.

31 *"So when his fellow servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done."* The fellow servants were more righteous than the forgiven servant because they were sad to see the injustice of an unforgiving heart. No such injustice remains secret to the mind of God. 32 *Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: 33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee? 34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him."* God has forgiven us an immensity of sins, yet we often fail to forgive those around us of a single offense thought they come begging for forgiveness. God places no higher standard of forgiveness upon His children than He, Himself, exercises. To be forgiven of God, we must pray for forgiveness. To be forgiven by men, we must repent and ask for forgiveness. Then are we required to forgive without number of times. God compares the process of our responsibility to forgive to be identical to His. Remember the Lord's Prayer which too many utter in vain? *"And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."* (Matt 6:12) Have we repeated that verse with true conviction? What does this mean? Jesus explains it perfectly in the Parable today and in the sequential statement on the Lord's Prayer: *"For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."* (Matt 6:14-15)

Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sermon

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



Christians Hold Fast

Psalm 71, Numbers 20:14-29, 2 Timothy 11-14

Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity

October 27, 2013

I am surprised at the increasing nihilism in our culture. I should not be for nihilism is the natural philosophy of man, but it is such a degrading and depressing view of life I am surprised anyone can tolerate it. Nihilism is the philosophy of nothing. It is based on atheism, and states that, since there is no god, there is no purpose or meaning to anything. There is no moral standard; morality itself is a meaningless word, for all thoughts and actions are meaningless. Therefore cruelty and kindness are morally equal; or, more accurately, without moral value or meaning. In this view nothing means anything, nothing has any value, except what you can put into your own life, and that generally becomes a matter of finding pleasure. That is why we are such an entertainment oriented culture; we are looking for pleasure. Even though pleasure is empty and meaningless in this view, it is basically all there is.

The Bible refutes this view at every point. According to the Bible the world has purpose, human life has purpose, your life has purpose because God is, and God has purpose. What is God's purpose? It is stated well for us in Ephesians 1:9-10. This is one of the foundational points of Scripture and we ought to memorise it the way we have memorized other verses of Scripture. If I say, "John 3:16," most of you can quote it from memory immediately. If I mention Romans 3:23 most of you immediately think, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." If I mention Romans 6:23, most of you will automatically say, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." But how many of you can quote, or even state the essence of Ephesians 1:9-10? These verses describe the purpose of God, and here it is:

Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in himself: that in the dispensation of the fullness of time he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.

God's purpose is to gather all things into Christ. Some will be gathered into Him in sorrow. They are the unbelievers, the wicked. Others will be gathered into Him in joy. They are the believers who have come to God in Biblical faith. But all will be gathered together in Christ. That is what God is doing with this world.

That purpose is manifest, that is, it is revealed and put into action by the appearing of Christ according to 2 Timothy 1:9-10. The "appearing" of Christ here refers to His birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection. By this we have seen the purpose of God. But also, by this we see that He has "abolished death and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." He has abolished the wages of sin. Remember Romans 6:23, "the wages of sin is death." This refers to the second death, a living death of the soul in the hell of eternal punishment and separation from God. This has been

abolished by Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. He died the sinner's death, and now the sinner does not have to die. Instead, He has brought life and immortality to light. He has revealed the way of eternal life. He has even purchased it for us. It is in His cross. He died in our places, and offers life to those who will accept it. "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

We learn of this through the Gospel, according to verse 10. In one sense the Gospel is the whole Bible from Genesis to Revelation. It is the whole story of God's dealings with humanity from the very start of time to the very end of it. In a more limited sense, the Gospel is the story of Christ dying for our sins and gathering us into His Kingdom of Grace. It is the story of Him purchasing eternal life for us, and giving it to us as His free gift, which we receive by faith.

Now we come to the point of today's sermon; "Christians Hold Fast." Christians hold fast to this Gospel of Christ, according to verse 13. That means we cling to it like a life preserver in a stormy sea. It means we honour and preserve it as an heirloom, as a great treasure above all treasures. It is our most prized possession. Christ is worth more to us than all the world, even more than our very lives. We know the truth of the words that to gain the whole and lose our own soul profits us nothing. Without Christ we have nothing. We are thrown back into the nihilism I spoke of earlier in this sermon. Without Him nothing matters. But with Him we have purpose, we have fullness, we have hope and joy and happiness and peace.

We hold fast to the form of sound words. Many say the faith and the Church has to be re-cast into the lingo and culture of each new generation. We must speak their lingo, their street talk. We must sing their music and dress their dress. I fail to see the logic in this. It seems to me that most of the lingo, music, and fashion of the world is intentionally anti God. Why would I want to imitate that? I would rather call people into the forms that have served God's people for thousands of years. I would rather call people out of their worldly identity into a new identity. I don't want to show the world how much I can be like it and still be a Christian, I want to show the world how being a Christian is different and better than the world.

Certainly we hold fast the form of sound words rather than changing those words to please people. Paul refers in part to the ancient way of teaching and learning that prevailed in his time. That method was memorisation. Hebrew children memorised vast portions of Scripture. They memorised the history of Israel. They memorised their family history. They did this partly for education and partly for entertainment. The result was a sense of connection and belonging in the children. They had an identity and a solidarity with the Jewish people. The Apostle Paul, as a Jew, had also memorized much of the Scriptures. He had probably memorized most of the words of Jesus while he was a new Christian in the Church in Antioch. He memorized them word for word. To change or omit a word was not permitted. He kept the form just as the Jewish children kept the form of words they memorised, word for word.

Paul passed this form of sound words on to Timothy. Timothy passed them on to the people and ministers of the Church. They have passed them on to others, who passed them on to others, and eventually they have come to us. We, have not memorised them they way the early Christians did, but we read them in the Bible. We hold them fast.

Paul tells us to hold fast the form of sound words, "in faith." This means first with understanding. It means we know the words and their meanings. It means also that we believe the words. It means we believe the Gospel. We trust it. We trust that in Christ

we are clean. Our sins are washed away and we are dressed in the righteousness of Christ. We believe we are accepted by God, forgiven by God. We have been made acceptable to God, and God has been made acceptable to us. God and us are reconciled in Christ.

It is, as verse 12 says in some of the Bible's most famous words, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day."

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+Dennis Campbell

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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. This sermon is not in the usual expository style common to the Sunday Report and the AOC, but I think you will enjoy it.



Most importantly you need to accept forgiveness yourself

Today our Gospel reading from St. Matthew has Peter asking Jesus: *How Oft shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.*

In Jesus' day the rabbis taught that people should forgive those who offend them; but only up to three times. Peter was trying to be especially generous, when he asked Jesus if seven, (the perfect number), was enough times to forgive someone. But Jesus answers "Seventy times seven, meaning that we should not count or keep track of how many times we forgive someone. We should always forgive those who are truly repentant, no matter how many times they ask.

A lot has been written on forgiveness, and most of the great Christian religious leaders of the world believe that forgiveness is the foundation of Christianity.

Forgiveness is God's Command, according to Martin Luther.

True forgiveness is liberating and necessary for attainment of peace. True forgiveness frees us from the captivity of the past, and helps us move into a more promising future. In fact, Archbishop Desmond Tutu said, "Without forgiveness, there is no future."

Because God has forgiven all our sins, we should not withhold forgiveness from others. As we realize how completely Christ has forgiven us, it should produce an attitude of forgiveness toward others. When we don't forgive others, we are setting ourselves above Christ's law of love. Christ told the scribes and the people of Israel in Mark's gospel (Mark 12:28-31):

³⁰ *And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.*

³¹ *And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.*

But, what about accepting forgiveness ourselves for our own mistakes?

If you look in the mirror and don't like the person you see, then you need to repent, accept God's forgiveness for yourself, and learn how to love the person God has made in you.

Bill Cosby once said: People can be more forgiving than you can imagine. But you have to forgive yourself. Let go of what's bitter and move on.

As we read in Jeremiah 31:34 ³⁴ *And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.*

If you have repented of your sins, and asked God for forgiveness, then you are forgiven, it does not work if you won't take what God gives you, so you must come to realize the power of God's forgiveness.

You need to stop associating your past failures, with your "new creation". St Paul tells the Corinthians in his second letter:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17

You've come to Jesus and repented, but you haven't really accepted the truth about what Jesus has done for you yet. You still feel ashamed and guilty over your past and you keep holding it against yourself.

The way you see yourself is not an accurate picture of How Christ sees you or what Christ has done for you. It is basically denying the work that Jesus accomplished for you on the cross!

Satan will always try to remind you of your past, and continue to beat you up over sins that have already been nailed to the cross. If you allow him to, he will do his best to keep you from experiencing the breakthrough that you need to be set free.

Failing to accept God's forgiveness for our past mistakes is in essence denying the work of the Cross and the shed blood of Christ in our lives.

God's Word tells us we've been washed clean with the blood of Christ and our sins are removed through the atoning work Jesus did for us. If we cannot accept that sacrifice on our behalf and get past our mistakes, we are denying what the blood of Jesus has done. It's staggering to think such a thing, but that is what really happens when we refuse to accept God's forgiveness ourselves.

Not regarding yourself as a new creature in Christ can lead to serious problems for you. You will be hindered and held back from freely and confidently living out who you really are in Christ!

You will be hesitant and feel unworthy to approach your Heavenly Father, because you feel you're a failure and unworthy. This is why it is vital for your conscience to be

cleansed of dead works, meaning (your past mistakes or failures), just as the author of Hebrews tells us:

"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Hebrews 9:14

There is an old proverb from the country of India that says, "Some men try to be tall by cutting off the heads of others." They try to make themselves feel better by making others feel bad.

We have all experienced sarcasm or a rude remark. When that happens, it is easy to forget others may be hurting or broken, just as we are.

Jesus understood the brokenness of the human condition. There is no one who knows the human heart like He does. He forgave tax collectors, prostitutes, and all sorts of sinners. He forgave his best friend Peter for betraying him. On the Cross he even forgave the people who killed him. Jesus knows that we humans are weak and frail.

In his book, Landmines in the Path of the Believer, Charles Stanley wrote:

We are to forgive so that we may enjoy God's goodness without feeling the weight of anger burning deep within our hearts. Forgiveness does not mean we recant the fact that what happened to us was wrong. Instead, we roll our burdens onto the Lord and allow Him to carry them for us.

Rolling our burdens onto the Lord is the key to the Christian life, and it is crucial to learning how to forgive. Trusting God, depending on Him instead of ourselves.

It's a hard thing but not a complicated thing. It's the only way we can truly forgive.

Each of us is wounded, as Paul said, "All fall short." We are all inadequate in our own way. Some days, our self-esteem can hover somewhere between feeble and fragile. All it takes is disapproval, or perceived disapproval to send us staggering. These attacks bother us because we forget who we really are.

As believers, we are all forgiven children of God. We have been graciously adopted into His Royal Family as his sons and daughters. Our true worth comes from our relationship with Him, not from our appearance, our performance or our net worth. When we remember that, criticism will have little or no effect on us. The problem is we forget who we are! We seek others' approval. When they reject us instead, it hurts.

By taking our eyes off God and His acceptance, and putting them on the conditional acceptance of our friends or acquaintances, we set ourselves up to be hurt. We forget that mortal man is incapable of unconditional love, unlike our Lord Jesus Christ who loves us unconditionally.

Remembering our sins are forgiven should make it easier to forgive others. Forgiveness should remind us of the great Savior who forgave us, undeserving though we will always be, and draw us closer in loving obedience to Him.

Remember, He wants us to accept His forgiveness and rejoice in His grace. We must never think that our sins are greater than God's love!

Now let's all rejoice in the knowledge God loves us, unconditionally and has forgiven us, and so it is His will, that we forgive others, and accept that forgiveness ourselves.

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.



Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity

In our gospel lesson from St. Matthew we learned that God will forgive us of our sins and trespasses if we will forgive others for the same. We need only consider the very words of the Lord's Prayer: Our Father... forgive us our trespasses. But there is a qualifier: as we forgive those who trespass against us. Yes, God will forgive us, but we are called on to forgive one another from the heart. That clearly means for us to forgive every offense regardless of the number of times we are wronged (St. Matthew 18:21-35). No doubt, those are hard words indeed. The tendency for many will involve trying to get back at their antagonist.

But God would rather have the true and faithful Christian leave the desire for vengeance with him. If we would possess a forgiving spirit, we will deny the devil access into our hearts and minds. So it follows that if we would be effective messengers for our Lord, then we ought not open ourselves up to demonic influence which will stifle the working of God's Spirit within us (Ephesians 4:26-27).

There are other biblical examples we can point to which validate our Lord's command that we forgive our trespassers. Examine the story of Jacob and Esau (Genesis 33:4-15). Jacob had supplanted Esau as the inheritor of the right of the first born and, in turn, Esau sought to harm Jacob. Afterwards, Jacob fled to his uncle Laban's land for refuge and to take a wife from among his daughters. Some years later, God directed Jacob to return to the land of Canaan. God then brought Esau into the mix again. Jacob heard that his brother was coming out to meet him and he was greatly concerned. But God turned the heart of Esau from hatred for Jacob to forgiveness. Jacob was more than pleasantly surprised to discover this when he met his brother. For at that meeting God's love for Jacob was displayed in Esau's warm greeting and brotherly embrace.

The story of Joseph includes not only his mistreatment by his brothers, but his forgiveness of them as well (Genesis 50:15-21). Joseph had been sold into slavery in Egypt by his brothers who hated him from the heart. Later, Joseph was cast into prison by Potiphar as he believed the accusation of his adulterous wife that he had tried to rape her. Joseph had been seemingly forgotten in an Egyptian prison until his gift of interpretation of dreams was made known to Pharaoh. When Pharaoh was given a dream by the LORD which he could not understand, he sought out his wise men and priests. But they too were unable to explain it. It was then that an advisor to Pharaoh — who had been imprisoned briefly with Joseph — told his master of a man who could interpret dreams. Joseph was brought to Pharaoh and provided him the message God had intended for him to know. Afterwards, Pharaoh appointed Joseph as second only to himself in the kingdom for the purpose of saving Egypt from the approaching seven years of famine. When his brothers came to purchase grain, Joseph was troubled by their presence but, he forgave them because he had seen the hand of God in his life. As he reminded his brethren, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them and spake kindly unto them. That is forgiveness from the heart!

Our Lord also forgave those who persecuted and crucified him (St. Luke 23:34). Consider his words, Father, forgive them: for they know not what they do. St. Stephen — the first Christian martyr — asked God to forgive his murderers (Acts 7:60) saying, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. These words were offered in the martyr's prayer as he was being stoned to death. Even facing death at the hands of a detractor, we ought to ask God to forgive them and not carry any hatred and bad feeling into our meeting with the Lord face to face when we "cross the bar."

Consider Psalm 86:5 wherein it is written, For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee. In the book of Isaiah (43:25) God said, I even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins. And further on in the same (55:7) we are admonished, Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

St. Paul understood the concept of godly forgiveness. He had been in and out of prisons on account of the faith and had suffered beatings of every sort, and was even stoned because of his preaching of the gospel (II Corinthians 11:24-26). He could well have asked God to strike his persecutors with lightning or worse. But instead, St. Paul asked God to forgive those who harmed him. In his second epistle to the youthful Timothy (4:16) the apostle recounted how no one had supported him against Alexander the coppersmith; but in spite of that, he asked God that they not be held liable for their lack of effort. Notice he did not include Alexander in his prayer request because he had resisteth the truth in unrighteousness. The apostle's prayer was for those of the flock of Christ who had not resisted in unrighteousness but had not stood with him against the unrighteousness of Alexander. Alexander's offense was more against God than the apostle. Those who had failed to support St. Paul had offended the apostle and thus his request that God forgive them. As he explained in his epistle to the Ephesians, And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you (4:32).

Are you in accord with God? Have you sought from him a pardon for those who have sinned against you? Are you prepared to let go all hatred, and all malice against those who have hurt you in any way? If we desire God's forgiveness for our sins and trespasses against him, we must also forgive them who are our persecutors and pray for them who spitefully use us that perhaps God will turn their hearts as he turned ours. Make it your prayer today that God will not only grant you true repentance, but that he will also give you a heart to forgive others. Our heavenly Father desires that we have his peace. And so if we seek the same, then we must let go of all malice and anger so that our hearts may be free to contemplate the good things which are before us in Christ Jesus. May our good and gracious God grant to you such faith that you will obey his commandments and experience his joy not only in this life but in the life to come.

Let us pray,

LORD, we hand over to you all who have harmed us in any way, and we also pray for their redemption; that they too might come to the knowledge of thy truth and be made members of thy fold and flock; for these things we ask in the name of him who forgave all at the cross, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

After Church Hospitality

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

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
3 November 2013	Opportunity Available - Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity
10 November 2013	Opportunity Available - Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity
17 November 2013	Opportunity Available - Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity
24 November 2013	Opportunity Available - Sunday Next before Advent
1 December 2013	Opportunity Available - First Sunday in Advent

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

Why? Prayer is an extremely important activity.

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

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

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

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

What is the commitment from the prayer team?

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

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

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

What should I ask for?

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

Updating the Team

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

Please note that on the yellow (maybe green or orange if you get an old one) cards at

church, you can ask that those to be prayed for have their names disseminated to the prayer team. Those names will be said in church and appear here. Or, you can ask that their names and purpose be kept confidential, then only Hap will know to pray for them.

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

Marriage

Brian and Mel Smith were married on 25 August 2013. Please pray that they might be brought together as one in God that their marriage might prosper.

Travel

No known travel this week.

Birthday

Jack Arnold celebrated his 21st birthday on 26 October 2013.

Betty Hoffman celebrated her 80th Birthday on 18 October 2013.

Doug Lambert celebrated his 67th birthday on 28 September 2013.

Gayle Charlesworth celebrated her birthday on 18 September 2013.

Shamim Gray celebrated her 46th birthday 4 September 2013.

Anniversary

Doug and Veronica Lambert celebrated their 7th Anniversary on 22 September 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

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 now in 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. Give thanks the safe move and ask for continued good developments.

Departed

Ronnie had a massive heart attack on 17 October 2013 and is now at home with his Lord. Please pray for his wife Suzanne and all his family as they adjust to the temporary separation.

Colonel Drue McMillan passed away 27 September 2013. Please pray for peace of mind for Drue's family, in particular his son David.

Thorsten Uekerman lost his father on 22 September 2013. Please give thanks for his time here on earth and pray for his family who remain behind, in particular his son Thorsten.

Gene passed on 20 September 2013, after a difficult last few days with lung problems. He has been so infected he has to be told when to breathe. Please give thanks for his time here on earth and pray for his family who remain behind.

Iva passed away 19 September 2013, after painful last days. Her family and friends are grateful for your prayers, thankful for her time here on earth and even more that she is at peace with our Lord.

Nearing the end of their time here on earth

Ester Whidett (Wilson), Mark Wilson's mother, has congestive heart failure and appears to be near the end of her time here on earth. Please pray for a peaceful transition from this world to home, for trust in the Lord, a vision of things to come, as well as peace of mind for Ester and her family, in particular her son Mark.

Colonel Drue McMillan is nearing the end of his time here on earth. Please pray for a peaceful transition from this world to home, for trust in the Lord, a vision of things to come, as well as peace of mind for Drue and his family, in particular his son David.

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

Marian has moved to a nursing home in Fresno where her niece Cathy can keep an eye on her and visit more often. She is weak and tires easily. Marian seems to not be interested in this world. Cathy would like her to stay with us and enjoy here time here on earth. Pray that the Holy Ghost might be able to enter into Marian's heart and bring light to her; pray also she might gain strength. Pray that Cathy might be given inspiration on how to help and the strength to do so.

Joan has had serious medical problems that have kept her confined. On 26 September 2013, she took a fall and fall and after test and time in the hospital she does not have any broken bones. Please pray that in the weeks ahead her health will remain stable

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 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

Ray Daley is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and served his country during the Korean War era. Ray is taking chemotherapy treatments for cancer. Meanwhile his son Trevor is in the hospital in a coma and seems to have lost the will to live. As volunteer chaplain, I have been asked to visit this family and offer prayers and encouragement. Thanks for your prayers in advance.

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. They are going to attempt a bilateral mastectomy in November 2013. Sasha has completed radiation and it was very difficult on her. She has surgery set for November and has they have discovered new tumors and the possibility of chemo again. She seems to be taking backward steps with her health. Her spirit is still strong and ask you continue to keep her in your prayers. 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. 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.

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.

Surgery

Mario has early-diagnosed prostate cancer and will have surgery this week. Let us offering thanks for this early diagnosis. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Mario and his family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Priscilla was released from the hospital and is now walking and without pain. She is waiting for doctors to come from the USA and will then have an operation. Pricilla and her family thank you for your prayers. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Pricilla and her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Dustin who was injured in a work accident when stainless steel sheet metal fell on his right hand. His thumb was severely injured as some of the bones were crushed. Dustin will have surgery on Thursday 22 August 2013, to reconstruct and reset his thumb. They do not expect him to lose his thumb. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Dustin and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Jamil was injured in a car accident. His nose was fractured and he will be operated on Thursday 22 August 2013.

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 and has headaches. 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

Mark had swelling and fluid buildup in his lungs. It appears things may be getting under control. He needs to use a Bi-Pap mask to breathe until his lungs clear and he hates it. Pray that he will be able to adapt so his lungs can clear. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mark, as well as for his family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Hap Arnold experienced sudden and complete hearing loss in his right ear on 18 October 2013, it is without apparent cause, he is getting what appears to be appropriate and timely treatment. He asks that you pray for God to act to restore his hearing

and for the medical people to pay attention and do their very best, which they appear to be doing and for which he gives thanks.

Mackenzie is a young girl with leukemia. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mackenzie, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Anita was operated on for an Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma tumors and has been in remission for sometime. After a biopsy of her left lung, three nodules were located in one lung and two in the other. She and her husband are traveling a long distance on 25 September 2013, with hopes of being admitted to a research study at a major hospital for Genome Mapping of Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma. Furthermore, Anita is scheduled for surgery on 30 September 2013. Please keep Anita and her family in prayer as they travel tomorrow and the week ahead.

Mack has had diabetes most of his adult life. Circulation in his legs is very bad and doctors are considering amputation. Please pray his medication will help and he will not face amputation. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mack and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Michael has been diagnosed with lung cancer recently after making it through gastro intestinal cancer last year. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Michael and his wife Gayle; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Ken Strauch has been tired and is anemic, he had a colonoscopy which found a pair of polyps which were removed and are being tested. Just for good measure they found he has a hiatal hernia with ulcers, basically part of his stomach is pushed up into his esophagus and is bleeding from there. Sounds there may be surgery involved. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Ken and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Jo Ann has been hospitalized for overstress, she was in the hospital with severe pancreatic pain. They found a blockage and medication has helped. Jo Ann has had some recent medical issues; appendicitis, a blood disease and more. It really seems like she has had about all she can deal with on her own now. Please pray that she might find a way to let God carry her worry and open her heart to Him and to her family; give her family the strength to help her in a manner which will be effective. Pray also for a complete and rapid recovery from her pancreas problem.

Adriano is in the hospital due to high sugar and high blood pressure. He is very weak and will appreciate your prayers.

Heather recently found out she has cancer. Please pray for peace of mind for her and for the medical team treating her will be guided to the right solution.

Jim has had an aneurism and blood clots. Pray that healing will come.

Bob has experienced several Transient Ischemic Attacks¹ (TIA) recently. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Bob and for God's guidance for the

¹ A transient ischemic attack (TIA) is a transient episode of neurologic dysfunction caused by ischemia (loss of blood flow) – either focal brain, spinal cord or retinal – without acute infarction (tissue death).

medical people treating him that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of 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. She has had numerous tests and the Physicians think it would be too risky to operate. Some other problems have been discovered and it is hopeful that new medicine will give her healing. Please continue Laurie in Prayer. 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) has been treating for ovarian cancer. The chemotherapy drugs she has been taking do not seem to be reducing the cancer cells the way it was hoped. She is going to stop taking them until January 2014; when they will start with new drugs. It is hoped that will shock the cancer into remission. In the meantime, she will be taking Avocet should keep the cells from increasing or multiplying. She will continue building fluid in her abdominal area which will have to be drained. This is turning into a lifetime of treatment kind of thing, rather than a one shot deal. This has been a difficult surprise for Sarah, but she is adjusting very well with God's help. There are a number of drug combinations to try, but she has hard road ahead. Please pray this new plan for chemotherapy will work and Sarah can tolerate the treatment. Sarah and Geordie both 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

Brian finished the chemotherapy and final radiation treatment for his upper lung and

TIAs have the same underlying cause as strokes: a disruption of cerebral blood flow (CBF), and are frequently referred to as mini-strokes. TIAs and strokes cause the same symptoms, such as contralateral paralysis (opposite side of body from affected brain hemisphere) or sudden weakness or numbness. A TIA may cause sudden dimming or loss of vision (amaurosis fugax), aphasia, slurred speech (dysarthria) and mental confusion. But unlike a stroke, the symptoms of a TIA can resolve within a few minutes or 24 hours. Brain injury may still occur in a TIA lasting only a few minutes. Having a TIA is a risk factor for eventually having a stroke or a silent stroke.

bronchial area cancer. A biopsy and CAT Scan the week of 9 September 2013, turned out to be a re-occurrence of the cancer in a slightly different location. He cannot have any more radiation, but is on a course of a different chemotherapy, one week on, three weeks off and repeat. He made it through the second week of treatment, one on, two off; Brian asks we pray for strength to undergo the new process. He is weak and tired; his spirit remains high. 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 new wife 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 NOW.

Jere Wolf, Melanie Zimmer's dad had a heart attack while back east visiting family. Though they said it was mild and in a non-essential area of the heart, his only symptom that he was aware of is that he awake at 0430 having difficulty breathing. He has been transferred to ICU as the breathing difficulty has gotten bad again & they are now intubating him. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Jere and his wife Doreen, as well as Melanie and the rest of the family; pray for the medical team treating him to continue to pay close attention and do their very best.

Sylvia Lee, Sandra Lee's mother, had been suffering from undiagnosed kidney failure; doctors finally figured out what the problem was and offered her "hospice care", a second opinion suggested dialysis. She is now starting dialysis. Please pray for strength and vitality to return to her and for peace of mind for Sylvia and her family, as well as their continued faith and in God as the Great Physician. They pray for help to listen to God's voice and guidance through this journey together.

Carolyn has Multiple Sclerosis with complications. Pray Carolyn and her children will be close to our Lord Jesus Christ as they and family members help to ease the problems.

Jeong was in an auto accident and sustained a serious back injury. Please pray for a full and rapid recovery.

Dale was hospitalized Sunday 25 August 2013, after a heart attack. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating him and for peace of mind for Dale and his family.

Gil Garcia developed a bed sore which precludes sitting and is now confined to his bed. Gil has very smooth and delicate skin, please pray for a rapid healing of the sore so he can get out of bed and move around in his chair. Gil spent almost a year in the hospital the last time this happened. His faith and his attitude are almost beyond belief, he is an example to us all. But, we pray this time he will heal quickly. Pray also for his lovely wife Mary who takes care of him. Pray for both of them also for strength to deal with the loss of their son Bernie.

Bill had malignant growth removed from a lip last month and seems to be experiencing a re-growth of the cancer. He asks your prayer for the medical team treating him and for peace of mind for himself.

Sarah has been released after several days in the hospital because of her low sodium. Pray she will continue to heal.

Hank has osteoporosis, which has caused him a great deal of pain and inconvenience in the past few years. Pray for his healing and that his medical bills will be met.

Evelyn is an elderly woman who has had problems with her eyes and is now blind. It appears some sight will return shortly, pray for that to happen!

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.

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.

Thanksgiving and Continued Healing

Liz Strauch just got over a pineal cyst removal and then they have found a mass in one of her breasts. She has undergone a biopsy and it came back okay. Please give thanks for the good result, for Liz' peace of mind and trust in the Lord and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her.

Otto had massive blood clots in both lungs and a smaller one in one of his legs, treatment worked and he is recovering at home, he tires and is still on medication, but able to sleep and be free from hospital routines. His family and friends thank you for your prayers. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Otto*, as well as for his family, and for continued recovery.

Please join together in thanking the Lord for strengthening *Christopher*, a young man with psychological problems who departed meds to a bad effect, for his maintaining healthy discipline the last six months, and join together in praying that he continue to be infused with strength and rationality.

Pat underwent successful major heart surgery on 25 September 2013. Please give thanks for the successful outcome and pray for continued healing and a complete recovery for *Pat*.

Jane, US Army Korea, had a tumor. She returned to the CONUS, underwent five hours of surgery which went exceedingly well. The tumor came out completely, on the surface it appears non-malignant, testing will be done to confirm. Please give thanks for the surgical team doing a great job and the great result. Pray for a complete recovery for *Jane*.

Kathy Cardin had successful surgery on 2 August 2013, to remove a cyst on her liver; now she has chest fluid pooling. Please give thanks for the great result and pray for the chest issue to clear up and continued healing.

Dennis has heart problems; now the medical people treating him discovered a large mass on his liver which turned out to be a cyst, just like *Kathy* above! Please give thanks for this great development and pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for *Dennis* and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that the contemplated surgery might go well.

Dwight had major oral surgery, for which he gives thanks. He is recovering slowly and asks your prayers to speed the process.

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.

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.

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.

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, recovered far better than expected from a severe brain bleed, but fell recently and broke her hip.

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

Chris and several others at his firm were let go after many years of faithful service. Please pray that they might find a company that can use their considerable skills and dedication to their mutual benefit. Pray also for those who remain behind that they might find peace in the confusion caused by the departures.

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

Guidance

Caitlin is in the grip of the Prince of Darkness; she thinks there is escape from reality in drugs. The saddest part is that reality is not as she sees it. Her family is despairing as they can do nothing to help her and ask that you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter into heart and show her the need for change before it is too late.

Nathaniel is in spiritual turmoil. His family and friends will appreciate it if you will keep him in your prayers for him to find the root of his trouble and accept God's help to heal his heart.

Sam and her *two children* that have been living in a shelter and are to lose their place there. Please pray a place will be found they can stay in and recover.

Please pray *Darlene* will surrender her life to Christ.

Norrie is facing daily exams in the weeks ahead. Pray for calmness and concentration and to do the best possible.

Jonathan is addicted to drugs. He is now in jail awaiting trial. His parents and friends will appreciate it if you will keep him in your prayers for him to find the root of his trouble and accept God's help to heal addiction.

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 him 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.

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

Hap and Dru Arnold give thanks for Rev Jack Arnold's 21st birthday and the wonderful son with whom God has entrusted them.

New Ministers

On 20 October 2013, *Anthony Pangsiw*, Bishop of the Anglican Orthodox Church in the Philippines was at All Saints' Anglican Orthodox Church in Tulodan Atok, Benquet Philippines, to ordain the following to the ministry in the AOC:

Reverend Deacon Sherwin Talasyong Banao to be Priest

Mr. Fabian M. Matda to be Deacon

Mr. Emanuel T. Banao to be Deacon

Please give thanksgiving for these men stepping forward to serve the Lord and pray for them to be able to fulfill the responsibility they have accepted:

Reverend Sherwin Talasyong Banao
Reverend Deacon Fabian M. Matda
Reverend Deacon Emanuel T. Banao

Ken Howes was ordained Tuesday 13 October 2013. Rev. Howes, a good friend of The Anglican Orthodox Church, was ordained into the Augsburg Lutheran Church in White South Dakota. He will be preaching and ministering in German and English in North Carolina and Manitoba. Pray for God's guidance in his ministry.

AOC Congregations

Nathan in Wake Forest, North Carolina needs God's Help to find others who are interested in having a Bible believing Church in the Anglican tradition. He would like to develop a congregation to associate with the Anglican Orthodox Church.

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.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (Kadena AB, Okinawa), Jordan (USMC – Fleet Marine Force - Pacific), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator – New Jersey), Trevor (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Camp Foster, Okinawa)

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

This is a horrible time for the *people of India, Christians in particular*; they are having problems with Hunger, Bank Closings, Transportation and Schools not functioning. Pray for the Leaders and Members of our Church in Eluru Andhra Pradesh. Pray their basic needs will be met and God will be close to them in this time of need.

Lisa discovered her 9 year old daughter *Mariah* had been raped. This is in the court system now and we know that prayers are needed for this family. "The effectual

fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" James 5:16 Lisa says she feels the power of your prayer in God's hand on her heart.

Please pray for *all the people of Egypt*; Bishop Mouneer Anis of Egypt is asking your prayer as the supporters of the deposed Mursi government, with the support of the United States government, have been attacking Christian churches--Anglican, Catholic and Orthodox. They destroyed the car of Anglican priest Rev. Ehab Ayoub. The people of Egypt, the people of the United States need our prayers, even more so the people of the Muslim Brotherhood that they might repent of their evil and know God so the rest of the people may live in peace.

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

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

Question that only you can ask

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

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

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

Epistleers

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

Date	Reader
3 November 2013	Dru Arnold - Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity
10 November 2013	Dru Arnold – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity
17 November 2013	Dru Arnold – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity
24 November 2013	Dru Arnold – Sunday Next before Advent
1 December 2013	Dru Arnold – First Sunday in Advent

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

3 November 2013 – Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

10 November 2013 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

17 November 2013 – Twenty-Fifth 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**

24 November 2013 – Sunday Next before Advent – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

1 December 2013– First Sunday in Advent – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**