



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church



The Presentation of Christ in the Temple,
commonly called
The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin.
superseding the Fourth Sunday after The Epiphany

Sunday Report

Today was the The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, commonly called The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin, which supersedes the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany. We do not oft get four or more Sundays after Epiphany, and when we do, one out of seven are superseded! It is also Ground Hog Day, most people know that. But, it is also Dru Arnold's birthday, the day when she wakes up, goes outside and if she sees her shadow, six more weeks of winter. The high thin overcast removed all shadows, and variableness of turning by the way, so given this morning's 25°F, I'd say six more weeks of winter!

In any event, the weather apparently agreed with all as we had our customary three in attendance.

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.

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

The Presentation of Jesus at the Temple, which falls on 2 February, celebrates an early episode in the life of Jesus.



In the Church of England, the Presentation of Christ in the Temple is a Principal Feast celebrated either on 2 February or on the Sunday between 28 January and 3 February.

The event is described in the Gospel of Luke (Luke 2:22–40). Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem

forty days (inclusive) after his birth to complete Mary's ritual purification after childbirth, and to perform the redemption of the firstborn, in obedience to the Law of Moses (Leviticus 12, Exodus 13:12-15, etc.). Luke explicitly says that Joseph and Mary take the option provided for poor people (those who could not afford a lamb) (Leviticus 12:8), sacrificing "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Leviticus 12:1-4 indicates that this event should take place forty days after birth for a male child, hence the Presentation is celebrated forty days after Christmas.

Upon bringing Jesus into the temple, they encountered Simeon. The Gospel records Simeon had been promised "he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ" (Luke 2:26). Simeon prayed the prayer that would become known as the *Nunc Dimittis*, or Canticle of Simeon, which prophesied the redemption of the world by Jesus:

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace; according to Thy word: for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people: to be a light to lighten the gentiles and to be the glory of Thy people Israel (Luke 2:29-32).

Simeon then prophesied to Mary: "Behold, this child is set for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which is spoken against. Yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35).

The elderly prophetess Anna was also in the Temple, and offered prayers and praise to God for Jesus, and spoke to everyone there about Jesus and his role in the redemption of Israel (Luke 2:36-38).

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 –

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

St. Matthew 7:13-14

And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

St. Luke 6:46

Is He safe?

“You’ll understand when you see him.”

“But shall we see him?” asked Susan.

“Why, Daughter of Eve, that’s what I brought you here for. I’m to lead you where you shall meet him,” said Mr. Beaver.

“Is—is he a man?” asked Lucy.

“Aslan a man!” said Mr. Beaver sternly. “Certainly not. I tell you he is the King of the wood and the son of the great Emperor-beyond-the-Sea. Don’t you know who is the King of Beasts? Aslan is a lion—the Lion, the great Lion.”

“Ooh!” said Susan, “I’d thought he was a man. Is he—quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion.”

“That you will, dearie, and no mistake,” said Mrs. Beaver; “if there’s anyone who can appear before Aslan without their knees knocking, they’re either braver than most or else just silly.”

“Then he isn’t safe?” said Lucy.

“Safe?” said Mr. Beaver; “don’t you hear what Mrs. Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? ‘Course he isn’t safe. But he’s good. He’s the King, I tell you.”

Jack Lewis

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

The meanest room where a few penitent believers assemble in the name of Jesus is a consecrated and most holy place in the sight of God. They that worship God in spirit and truth never draw near to him in vain. Often they go home from such meetings warmed, cheered, stablished, strengthened, comforted, and refreshed. And what is the secret of their feelings? They have had with them the great Master of assemblies even Christ himself.

JC Ryle

19th century Anglican bishop and author
(Knots Untied, p. 207)

Free Will or Predestination – From Here to Eternity

Everyone who believes in God at all believes that He knows what you and I are going to do tomorrow. But if He knows I am going to do so-and-so, how can I be free to do otherwise? Well, here once again, the difficulty comes from thinking that God is progressing along the Timeline like us: the only difference being that He can see ahead and we cannot. Well, if that were true, if God foresaw our acts, it would be very hard to understand how we could be free not to do them. But suppose God is outside and above the Time-line. In that case, what we call ‘tomorrow’ is visible to Him in just the same way as what we call ‘today’. All the days are ‘Now’ for Him. He does not remember you doing things yesterday; He simply sees you doing them, because, though you have lost yesterday, He has not. He does not ‘foresee’ you doing things tomorrow; He simply sees you doing them: because, though tomorrow is not yet there for you, it is for Him. You never supposed that your actions at this moment were any less free because God knows what you are doing. Well, He knows your tomorrow’s

actions in just the same way—because He is already in tomorrow and can simply watch you. In a sense, He does not know your action till you have done it: but then the moment at which you have done it is already ‘Now’ for Him.

Jack Lewis
Mere Christianity

The States can best govern our home concerns and the general government our foreign ones. I wish, therefore ... never to see all offices transferred to Washington, where, further withdrawn from the eyes of the people, they may more secretly be bought and sold at market.

Thomas Jefferson
letter to Judge William Johnson, 1823

Even at their best the Romans were evenly matched by the barbarians... and through centuries of peace, they had grown unused to war. In our time the civilized nations possess munitions of war far superior to those of the savage tribes; but in ancient days, both sides fought with swords and spears, and the only advantage of the Romans lay in the superb discipline of their legions. But that discipline was greatly relaxed in the times of the later emperors; and the barbarians were physically the stronger, the bolder, and more apt in warfare. What was worse for the degenerate Romans, they no longer served in their own armies. The legions were manned by these very barbarians... Most of the later armies, their generals and even many emperors themselves came from the barbarian races. No people can long maintain their liberties who habitually hire foreigners to do their fighting when fighting is necessary.

Dr. Jesse L. Hurlbut
19th and 20th century American Methodist-Episcopal minister, teacher and author
(The Story of the Christian Church, p. 73)

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

Aesop
6th century BC Greek philosopher and author

Propers

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

The Collect for the Day is to be read on Sunday and during Morning and Evening Prayer until the next Sunday. The Epistle is normally a reading from one of the various Epistles, or letters, in the New Testament. The Gospel is a reading from one of the Holy Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Collect is said by the minister as a prayer, the Epistle can be read by either a designated reader (as we do in our church) or by one of the ministers and the Holy Gospel, which during the service in our church is read by an ordained minister or our Deacon Striker.

The propers are the same each year, except if a Red Letter Feast, that is one with propers in the prayerbook, falls on a Sunday, then those propers are to be read instead, except in a White Season, where it is put off. Red Letter Feasts, so called because in the Altar Prayerbooks the titles are in red, are special days. Most of the Red Letter Feasts are dedicated to early saints instrumental in the development of the church, others to

special events. Some days are particularly special and the Collect for that day is to be used for an octave (eight days) or an entire season, like Advent or Lent.

The Propers for today are found on Page 231-233, with the Collect first:

**The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, commonly called
The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin. [February 2.]**

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

The Collect.

O GOD, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright; Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Dru Arnold read the reading for the Epistle which came from the Book of Malachi, the Third Chapter, beginning at the First Verse:

BEHOLD, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' sope: and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.



Hap Arnold read the Holy Gospel which came from the Second Chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Luke, beginning at the Twenty-Second Verse:

AND when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; (as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) and to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, then took he him up in



his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, accord-ing to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; and she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.



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.



Consider these words from the Collect:

... as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts ...

In the Collect, we are asking God to look at us in our Judgment Day as He looked at His Son that day in the temple. We cannot be perfect, nor can we have truly pure and clean hearts, for we are imperfect creatures with free will. But, through the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, we can be accounted as such. That day in the temple, Jesus was presented to God, with a pure and clean heart. We need Him to make us accounted so.

We need Him to be our link between Heaven and Earth, for without Him, we cannot ascend to Heaven, but with Him we can. The purification was the beginning of His presentation to God as a clean and acceptable sacrifice, and the cross was the carrying out of His sacrifice to God, which cleaned our slate. This was the beginning of His plan to free us from the servitude of sin.

Likewise in the Collect for the Fourth Sunday after The Epiphany, we ask God for His Help, acknowledging our imperfection:

... by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright; Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations ...

This is why He sent the Holy Ghost to be our inspiration, comfort, strength, understanding. With Him all things are possible, without Him, we fail. While Christ is not physically present on this Earth, He is spiritually, through the Holy Ghost, He is still giving us guidance on how to conduct ourselves and if we will listen to Him, we will find that we will be a lot happier following his advice.

The prophet Malachi reminds us that Jesus was sent to fulfill the Law, not to continue it; to call men to perfection, not to hide them from it. Jesus was sent to call men to God's

standard¹, not to give them ways to seem like they were following Him. Malachi goes on to tell us what God expects from us. We are to be His followers, but also His Hands, to act on His behalf. Therefore, we are as representatives of God on Earth, we must conduct ourselves as such then. To be honest in our dealings with men, to take positive action to help those who cannot help themselves, to be a friend of all in need, to help those who need help. This does not mean encouraging slothfulness, but rather encouraging industriousness. This is what God wants for us, to work hard to the best of our ability, to help our fellow people in need, and to love our neighbor as ourselves and to love Him. That is what He wants for us, and if we follow Him and do these things, we will find that it actually makes our lives easier and happier than if we did what we want.

We must overcome our natural temptation to listen to ourselves, but we must turn to the Holy Ghost and listen to Him. He will give us all the solutions we need to get out of whatever adversity we are in, if we will but listen to Him.

In the Gospel, we learn of Jesus' presentation in the temple, pure and clean before God, as we will be accounted through Him. The presentation was to bring the new child to the Lord in thanksgiving for a safe childbirth, no small thing, in particular for a first born. All the more reason for thanksgiving and the dedication of the firstborn to the Lord. Imagine the joy that was in his heart to see the Lord's Christ when you hear Simeon's words that are found in our Evening Prayer service on Page 28 of the Book of Common Prayer:

Nunc dimittis. St. Luke ii. 29

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen * thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared * before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, * and to be the glory
of thy people Israel.

Simeon goes on to foretell the effect Jesus will have on Israel and those who live there, both good and bad. He tells Mary of the pain she will bear at the loss of her son, though in time she will understand. And she did understand it as Jesus carried out the ultimate sacrifice upon the Cross, she finally knew what Simeon meant in his words to her.

The prophetess Anna also near the end of her time here on earth likewise tells the parents of things to come. Imagine how difficult it was for them to understand all this, yet it would in their minds as time went on.

After the presentation, the family went back home to Galilee, and Jesus grew strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him. This is what we must all strive for in our hearts, souls minds and bodies. We must strive to grow in spirit and be filled with that Holy Wisdom.

We must look to God for the strength and guidance we need to follow Him. We must welcome the Holy Ghost into our hearts to have the courage to follow Him.

Be of God Live of God Act of God

¹ By standard, one can mean God's flag or side, or one could mean the level expected; here we mean both!

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.

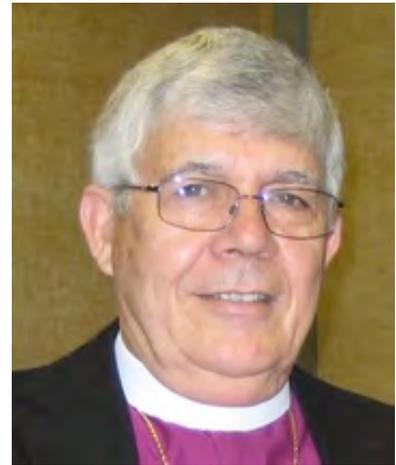
Sermon Notes

Fourth Sunday after The Epiphany
2 February 2014, Anno Domini (In the Year of our Lord)

**The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, commonly called
The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin. [February 2.]**

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

The Collect.

O GOD, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright; Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Epistle

Romans xiii. 1

LET every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God; and they that resist shall receive to themselves condemnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: for he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 8:1-13

WHEN he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.² And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.³ And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, **I will; be thou clean.** And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.⁴ And Jesus

saith unto him, **See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.**⁵ And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,⁶ And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.⁷ And Jesus saith unto him, **I will come and heal him.**⁸ The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.⁹ For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. ¹⁰When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, **Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.**¹¹ **And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.**¹² **But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**¹³ And Jesus said unto the centurion, **Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.** And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

Two separate kinds of physical afflictions are addressed here (leprosy and the palsy), and two different expressions of faith. Our Lord Jesus Christ has just delivered the most comprehensive and beautifully meaningful sermon in all of recorded time. He has spoken from the mountain top the pure Words of righteousness, but now He descends to the level at which most of His people live and labor, rejoice and suffer, are pained and comforted. Like every word of Scripture, these verses, too, show us yet another marvelous aspect of the nature of Christ and His magnanimity.

“When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.” Christ most often resorted to the mountain to both pray and teach. Prayer is always addressed to Heaven. Teaching of the Gospel is also performed from a higher perspective than the common speech. But after our prayers and preaching, we must always descend to the common problems of life and learn to await God’s answer to our prayers and apply the preaching of the Gospel to the practical and routine circumstances of everyday life. The air on the mountaintop may be clear and pristine, but when we go down to the valleys, we encounter the unpleasant odors of human failure and hurt.

“And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.” Please note the manner in which the leper approaches Christ. The leper CAME to where Christ was. We cannot bring Christ DOWN to our place of sin and debauchery – we must rise up and go to Him for our salvation and needs. Secondly, we cannot approach Christ with impudence and irreverence – we must first worship Him in our prayers before stating our petitions. The leper came and WORSHIPPED Jesus! This is represented by the ‘Hallowed be thy Name’ phrase in the Lord’s Prayer.

“Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.” The leper does not overtly ask anything of Christ but presumes upon His know compassion and grace. It was widely known of Christ that He willed all who came to Him to be made whole. The leper simply states the obvious fact and, in his statement, the leper anticipates the answer. *“Lord, if thou wilt...not truly IF, for Christ DID always will that lepers be made clean thereby unraveling the dirty works of Satan to harm and to hurt. “.....thou canst make me clean!”* This is a simple statement of fact. There was no doubt in the mind of the leper that, if Christ willed, He could make the leper clean; but there was also no doubt in the

leper's mind that Jesus did, indeed, will that he be made clean. This is the essence of faith and hope.

Before proceeding further, let's go back and review the nature of leprosy in its similitude to sin:

1. Sin, like leprosy, renders its victim helpless of improving his condition. It will inevitably lead to final death.
2. Sin, like leprosy, separates one from the pure and clean. The sinner is unfit for heaven and the society of pure and holy company.
3. Sin, like leprosy, is infectious by intimate contact. The people with whom we associate have critical impact on our hope of righteousness.
4. Sin is constitutional. The outward expressions and manifestations are but the effects of a disease which permeates the whole system.
5. The tendency to sin, like the tendency to leprosy, is hereditary. Our Federal head, the Common father in Adam, contracted this disease through disobedience in the Garden. His propensity to sin has become a part of our human condition through inheritance.
6. Sin, like leprosy, is deceitful in its working. It may not be visibly represented in the beautiful child of leprous parents, but as time advances, the beautiful child will slowly begin to incur the signs and debilities of the disease.
7. Sin, like leprosy, knows not geographic barriers.
8. Leprosy, at the time of Christ, was incurable by man. So is sin today.
9. Sin, like leprosy, does not bring immediate pain and death. The moment Adam tasted the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, he immediately **BEGAN** to die. In fact, his fate was sealed at that point. (*Suggestive Illustrations of the Gospel*, Peloubet, 1894)

The leper is characterized by deformity and a sickening odor. His features are possessed of open sores and rotting flesh. Most of us would be repelled at the very sight of a leper.

This will make the following action of Christ even more amazing and noteworthy:

"And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him." This seems a simple act at first reading, but, Reader, please remember that no healthy human being has touched this poor, wretched leper in a great deal of time since he first contracted leprosy. Many of them suffer as much from a despondency of love as from the adverse physical effects of the disease. How pitiful they are and lonely! But Jesus was the first and only man present who would deign to **TOUCH** this leper. Any touch at all for the leper would seem a compassionate caress. **Jesus touched him!** He will touch us as well if we go forth to Him. And then, ***"I will; be thou clean."*** Immediately the powers of heaven began to pulse through the lepers veins vanquishing every sign and vestige of leprosy. How long did the healing take? Does the word 'immediately' suggest an answer? ***"And immediately his leprosy was cleansed."*** The healing occurred, not in graduated steps or interludes of minutes, but, rather, **IMMEDIATELY!**

"And Jesus saith unto him, See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them." Though we may be healed in the sight of God and forgiven our sins, there yet remains a responsibility on our part to make our healing known to those with whom we associate along life's road. So we also comply with all provisions of law in making that healing known. In counseling the leper to ***"tell no man"*** Jesus demonstrates the impossibility of maintaining such a marvelous grace private. Imagine the reaction of family and friends

when they see their loved one has been restored. Have you been silent about the forgiveness and healing you have been granted by Christ at your salvation?

“And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.” Now comes to Jesus a Gentile in the profession of arms, and one of some authority, being a Centurion. Being a Captain of War, this man was accustomed to respect and a proud countenance. But the heart of this Centurion betrays a loving and loyal heart beneath a perhaps warlike appearance. This Centurion is willing to subdue his pride and forego his standing to come begging before Christ – not for himself even – but for his servant. This suggests a noble and compassionate soul whose character seems at contrast to his profession and calling. Jesus did not distinguish between races and social standings among men.

*“And Jesus saith unto him, **I will come and heal him.**”* There were many demands put on Jesus’ time, but He always found time to respond to a need. Without hesitation, Christ immediately responded that he would go to where the servant was and heal him. *“The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth.”* This is one of the greatest statements of faith in all of the Holy Bible! The Centurion realizes that the authority and power of Christ is knows no geographic limitations. He does not limit the power of Christ to heal by the physical presence of the Lord. If Christ will only speak the word, the Centurion knows that will suffice.

*“When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, **Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.**”* It is a smear on the reputation of the church that many greater acts of faith occur outside its walls than INSIDE those stone walls. The Centurion, who lacked the advantage of any prior knowledge of the law and prophets, demonstrated greater faith than those who did have that advantage.

*“And I say unto you, **That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.**”* Christ here bears out an important truth. The accident of birth is not a bar to enjoyment of the blessings of Israel. Men and women shall come from the four corners of the earth and shall enjoy the privileges of a Godly heritage. This was spoken to the comfort of the Centurion as well as for our own.

*“And Jesus said unto the centurion, **Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.** And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.”* It was no small miracle to heal a man who may have been miles away by a simple utterance – but Christ did so. The servant, miles away, was instantly healed. This exemplifies the principle that we ought to pray for those we love. The Centurion was not afraid to ask Christ for so great a favor. The story reminds me of a king of Lyda who surrender to the great King Cyrus, when besieged, to save his city from certain destruction. When King Cyrus asked the deposed king what favor he would like in return for his surrender, the king responded, “Ten thousand talents of silver!” A courtier of King Cyrus rebuked the deposed king for being so presumptuous in asking such a large gift, but King Cyrus scolded his courtier and said, “If I am as great a King as this fellow’s request suggests, then he has had the boldness to express his high regard for my greatness by asking a gift commiserate to it!” Is anything too great for God?

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:



The Presentation of Christ

Malachi 3:1- , Luke 2:22- 40

The Presentation of Christ

February 2, 2014

Several things have combined to make this a significant day. First, it is Sunday, the Lord's day, the day set aside for worshipping God with His people in the Church. Every Lord's Day is a significant day. Second, we are exactly halfway through winter, and that is particularly good news because of the cold weather we have been having. We're already seeing more daylight, and that's good news too. Third, it is exactly forty days after Christmas. Forty days after His birth, Joseph and Mary took Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to do for Him according to the custom of the law and dedicate Him to God.

There is an obvious question that is raised here. Since Jesus is God, why does He have to be dedicated to God? The answer is that Jesus lived by His own rules. He never exempted Himself from anything He requires of us. Every law of God was kept by Him from the great moral commandments to the smallest minutiae of the ceremonial law. He kept them all and He kept them perfectly. If there had been a failure in Him, even in the tiniest detail of the ceremonial law, He could not have been the perfect Lamb of God and sacrifice for our sin. He would have been a sinner Himself. But He never sinned. He kept both the letter and the spirit of the Law, the whole law of God. He did it living just the way you and I have to live, by faith. He had to face every human struggle and temptation we face, and He had to do it without sin. He had to be perfect. I once heard a character in a TV show seemingly discredit the life and death of Christ. He said something like this: so what if Jesus died on the cross, He was God and He knew He was going to rise again, so what's the big deal about it? Well, here's the big deal; Jesus had to trust in the Father by faith just like you and I do. He had to accept on faith that He would rise from the dead, just like you and I have to do. He had to accept on faith that His death was God's will and plan for Him. He had to live by faith in every aspect of life and belief, just like you and I have to do. He had no insider information, no special exemptions, no free pass on life. He had to do it all just like us, or it would have been a sham. And He had to do it without sin. So here we see Him being presented in the Temple, according to the Law. He's keeping the law.

Something else is happening in this presentation. As Mary and Joseph are climbing the steps to the Temple a man and a woman stop them and want to see the baby. As every mother knows, it is not unusual for people to want to see babies, but there was something very unusual in the words of these two people.

The first mentioned is Simeon. He was an elderly man, and like most Jews, he wanted to live long enough to see the Messiah. And, for some reason, God granted him that wish. Why? Verse 25 says he was just and devout and waiting for the Messiah, called here, "the consolation of Israel." But I'm sure there were others just as just, just as devout, and having the same strength of desire to see the Messiah. What made

Simeon different? I don't know. The ways of God are not always clear to us. He raises up some people, and casts down others. He chose the Jews to be His Old Testament Israel, and He passed over many other peoples, and only He knows why. He has mercy on whom He will, and He hardens whom He will, and nobody knows why but Him. All we know is that He works all things according to the counsel of His own will, not ours. And that He works all things for His own glory and our good. And in all the events and ambiguities and questions of life, we have two choices; pout, or trust. I suggest trust.

According to the counsel of God's own will, for His own glory, and in keeping with His promise that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called, *according to His purpose*" (Rom 8:28), God allowed Simeon to see the Messiah, and the Holy Spirit of God opened Simeon's mouth to speak those beloved words we sing so often in Evening Prayer, the words we call the *Nunc dimittis*,

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel."

There is something special in these words, so special it is hard to say them without being moved emotionally, because of the great faith that is in them, and because of the great truth that is in them. The faith speaks for itself. It says, "God, you have allowed me to see the Messiah. Now I know that the Consolation of Israel has arrived. I know the era of promise has begun. Knowing this, I can die in peace." I think a man could get a sermon out of that. Haven't we seen the Messiah? Haven't we seen Him by faith? Haven't we met Him in the Scriptures, heard Him speak, walked with Him by the Sea of Galilee, listened to His prayer in Gethsemane, and watched Him rise from the tomb and ascend into Heaven? And having "seen" Him, we can live in faith, or die in peace, which ever the Lord has for us. We have seen the Saviour. Let the words of Scripture work that faith in you. Do not read them only for doctrine and correction and reproof. Do read the Scriptures for such things, but don't stop there, read them for faith, that through them Christ may dwell in your heart by faith.

There is great truth in Simeon's words, too. There is an inseparable unity between faith and truth. This unity is such that faith without doctrine is dead, and, doctrine without faith is dead. And the truth, the doctrine in Simeon's words is; "this is the Messiah. This baby being taken into the Temple in His mother's arms is none other than the Messiah, Emmanuel, God with us." How amazing. Thirty years before the Baptist said, "Behold the Lamb of God:" before the Father said from Heaven, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased:" before Jesus turned the water into wine or healed the sick or raised the dead, or preached His first sermon or did any of the things that publicly identified Him as the Messiah, Simeon announced Him on the steps of the Temple. "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

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+Dennis Campbell

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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.



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

In our gospel lesson (St. Matthew 8:5-13), our Lord met a centurion who had sought him out that he might heal his servant. Our Lord was willing to go and lay hands on the man, but the centurion's response was Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. The soldier's faith was such that our Lord extolled him before his disciples saying, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel... Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. Then the apostle added, And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

Throughout the Scriptures, we are supplied examples of the healing power of God. Some were for signs and wonders that instilled faith, while others demonstrated the power of our Lord over all things in the creation. In every instance of their use, they revealed the great love and compassion of God for his people. The blind were made to see, the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed and the dead raised. Jesus Christ was more than just a rabbi, or a Pharisee. He was more than just a prophet carrying the words of God. He is the Son of God: the second person of the Trinity and the author and finisher of our faith. When the centurion came to him, he fully expected his servant to be healed. He must have known in his heart that Jesus was the Christ, or at least a man preferred of God, fully possessing the power to grant such a marvelous request. He addressed him as Lord and would not have him come to his dwelling, but merely said speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

Think, for a moment, about the phrase: speak the word only. This man, who was a Roman officer, was willing to accept the word of healing from a person whom he had never met before and who was grounded in a lifestyle and culture which was literally worlds apart from his own. What a perfect example of faith in operation, and without a doubt, God had inspired him to come to our Lord. While the centurion came for the sake of his servant, there was another purpose that God had in mind and that was the humbling those who followed our Lord. It is kind of like the bucking up we used to receive in the service when we needed to be reminded of those things which our leaders thought were important and which we were not doing very well, if at all. Our Lord's earthly ministry revealed in so many ways the power which he possessed. As the creeds communicate, Jesus Christ is fully man and fully God.

And what did the Roman officer do? He left our Lord's presence and returned to his home to find his servant healed. When our Lord said, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee, he gave the centurion a command as well as comfort. The man believed. He trusted that what our Lord had spoken would be done. Going on his way and without the physical presence of Christ meant that he walked in faith. That is what we are expected to do every day. Obedience to God is the duty of every born-again Christian. St. Paul reminded us in our epistle lesson today that we should be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. (Excluding the issue of human government) we should remember that the highest power is that of God. He is the Creator, the Sustainer and Deliverer of all

that is both visible and invisible. The first commandment states, I am the Lord thy God... Thou shalt have no other gods before me (Exodus 20: 2). As I have said in other places, you cannot expect a blessing if you are not willing to be obedient to God's word written. We can petition God all day long, but if we are rebellious— if we are resistant to his commands— then he will not honor our requests. The centurion was agreeable to our Lord's will. He believed and trusted. His faith was reinforced when he returned home to find that his servant was made well the very hour he was talking with the Lord.

Though it is not said whether the centurion ever became a Christian, it is fair to believe that based upon his testimony, he became one much as his later counterpart, Cornelius became a believer and was baptized, receiving the Holy Ghost (Acts 10:1-48).

St. Paul advised the Corinthian church (I Corinthians 11:23-34), But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. Self judgment is an act of examining oneself to see just how obedient or disobedient one is or has been from one given time period to another. God will allow us to be troubled as part of his chastening of us. Chastening is his way of shaking us out of our rebellion and bringing us back under his divine regime. The apostle penned a more definitive support in Hebrews 12:6-13 when he said, For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth... Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby... We cannot be healed before we acknowledge that what we were doing beforehand was sin. Unconfessed sin, therefore, must be removed. In the Book of Joshua (7:1-26), the LORD would not go into battle with the Israelites because one them (only one) had not complied with his command that nothing be taken from the city of Jericho. A man named Achan had taken gold and silver from the city, which contents were to go into the treasury of the LORD. Until he was found out and his punishment carried out, God would not help the Israelites. That is how serious God is about obedience.

Many carnal Christians love to tell of God's love and will look at this account in our gospel lesson emphasizing only that particular point. They flinch when they read the Old Testament accounts such as those in Joshua and in the Pentateuch because they erroneously believe that those messages carry too much judgment and not enough mercy. They fail to realize that the very God who demanded the deaths of prodigals and witches, adulterers and thieves is the same God who is described in I St. John 4:8 as being love. Yes, God is love. And God loves his own. But that does not mean that God loves sin and will overlook the unconfessed transgressions that a sizable number of Christians carry around with them. Are we not to confess our sins and be done with them? Are we not commanded to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength? If we truly love God, then we will be as obedient as that centurion who came in faith and had his faith reassured.

Therefore rid yourselves of whatever sins you have not confessed unto God in Christ's name. Seek his perfect will for you. Ask him to fill you with his most holy Spirit and to heal you of all that ails you in the name of his beloved Son. To paraphrase a current

mantra: "Have obedience to God in Christ, Receive his blessings. Have no obedience to God in Christ, receive no blessings." It is that simple.

Let us pray,

FATHER, pour upon us thy most blessed Spirit; that we being so filled will adhere to thy word written and then go on to do those things which thou hast called on us to perform in thy service; for this we ask in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

After Church Hospitality

FINALLY! Today, courtesy of Betsy and Marianne Lane, we had dog nuts; doughnut holes to be precise. This in honor of Dru Arnold's birthday! We were reassured the doughnut holes actually had no carbohydrates. Marianne, in addition to being a gifted organist and lovely lady can always be depended on for wonderful nutritional advice.

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

Date	Name
9 February 2014	Opportunity Available – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
16 February 2014	Opportunity Available – Septuagesima
23 February 2014	Opportunity Available – Sexagesmia
2 March 2014	Opportunity Available – Quinquagesima

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

Bishop Eduardo Dominguez of the AOC travels to Peru from 22 January 2014, to 2 February 2014 visiting our two AOC missions there.

Birthday

Dru Arnold celebrated her 59th Birthday on 2 February 2014. For the record, she did not see her shadow, thus we are faced with six more weeks of winter.

Anniversary

Doug and Veronica Lambert celebrated their 7th Anniversary on 22 September 2013.

Move

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

Col. William Raymond "Ray" Bean, 70, passed away on 18 January 2014, following a long struggle with pancreatic cancer. Ray took over Hap's Flight at RAF Bentwaters in 1977 and was a really great fellow. A POW in North Vietnam as a navigator, on repatriation, he went to pilot training, then F-4 school, then RAF Bentwaters. After a thirty year career which took him all over the globe, Ray's final assignment with the Air Force brought him and his family to Maxwell Air Force Base. He later retired and joined Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and was their Director of Cadet Programs for 9 years. Finally really retiring, Ray played golf followed Auburn University football, traveled, fished, attended weekly bible study and volunteered at the Montgomery Archives. Please pray for comfort for those he left behind, in particular his wife of 37 years Mindy, daughter and son-in-law

Peyton and Tyler Turner; granddaughter, Olivia; brothers, Paul, Al and David, and sister, Cindy. Ray is a great guy, he will be missed by all.

Bob Jenkins passed away recently. Please pray for his wife and family who of necessity remain behind. Pray that they can let God carry their worry, sadness and concern so they can move forward here on earth.

Nearing the end of their time here on earth

Alan is a victim of metastasized colon cancer already destroying his liver. His youngest sister has put aside her hard-earned career to care for her brother in these days on earth. Please pray for him as he prepares to go home to be with his family who have gone before him. Please pray for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Alan and his family who will of necessity remain behind.

Paul has dementia and does not remember to eat. He has been in the hospital the last few days and will return to the Nursing Home today. Pray he will eat and that his family will be together in one accord as they take care of him. He is being moved from one hospital to a larger one this morning because of blood issues.

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

Elma is suffering from cancer. She was taken home from the hospital on the advice of her Doctor. Please pray *Elma's* remaining time here on earth might be good. Help *Elma* and family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Ronnie has kidney cancer that has spread and the surgeons are very concerned. Please pray the medical team to formulate a successful treatment plan and for a miraculous remission; that *Ronnie's* remaining time here on earth might be good. Help *Ronnie* and family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Levi was cancer free for 4 years and just discovered he has kidney cancer. *Levi* has a great deal of faith and said whether he is healed or God takes him home he will be fine. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that *Levi* and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. In particular, please pray for pain relief; *Levi* is 22 years old.

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 now in the bone marrow, without a miracle from God she will be leaving soon. Her spirit is still strong and asks 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

Melody Summers of Gold Creek, Montana has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. She is a very special person in the Gregr family's lives. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Melody and her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. Pray for a special miracle for her and her family.

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. Priscilla 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 Priscilla 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.

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.

Preston is reacting poorly to recent neck surgery and now has problems with his liver count; Physicians feel that dialysis will help. There may be a blockage in the bowel and an operation might be necessary. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best to determine how to help Preston and for a good outcome. Pray also that Preston and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders while Preston does his best to facilitate a return to good health.

Marianne is hospitalized with a perforated colon. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Marianne, 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.

Erica has a non-malignant Brain Tumor. The tumor is growing and she is scheduled for an operation in January. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Penny's Mom is having an MRI on 18 November 2013, to explore a knot in her upper leg that appeared after a procedure last week. An MRI gives her stress and claustrophobia and your prayers will be appreciated.

Brenda is in the hospital because of bleeding on her brain. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Brenda, 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.

Traci underwent her one year endoscopy on Friday 15 November 2013. Tracy did well on 18 November 2013, with second endoscopy. Both biopsies the doctors feel will be alright. One more to go next week is a mammogram. She and her family will appreciate it if you will continue her in prayer.

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.

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.

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 a 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 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 eighth 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. Brian had developed an abdominal pain, the potential source of which concerned him, but a CT Scan on 22 January 2014, showed the cancer virtually gone, although there is fluid buildup. After the fluid draining, he felt much better. Now, to find out what it came from. 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.

Barbara Apple fell the week of 11 January 2014, in her home, breaking her right humerus (the large upper arm bone) in a spiral fracture, which cannot really be set. Movement is very painful and due to a total lack of energy, she is more or less bedridden. Please pray for Barbara to put her trust in the Lord, look to Him for strength and for her to gain energy so she does not lose the mobility she has; pray for a full and rapid recovery. Please pray also for her husband Bob who is taking care of her that he might be comforted and strengthened in this time of stress.

Mary Thornell had surgery on 30 October 2013, at the Riverside Community Hospital to remove a huge mass along with about ½ her colon and part of her lower bowel. Mary starts chemotherapy this week and it will go for six months, every other week. Pray for strength and guidance for Mary as she works hard at recovery. Pray for peace of mind for Mary and her husband Jim, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, she begins her recovery. Please pray also for a full and rapid recovery.

Luis Martinez had a heart attack on 1 November 2013. It appears there may be valve or blockage issues, so they ask that you pray for guidance for the medical team treating him. Please pray for proper treatment, full recovery and peace of mind for Luis, as well as for trust in the Lord for him and his wife Selma, and the rest of the family.

Alwin Jack has had a stroke and recently has had a relapse. Please pray for those who treat Alwin that they might chose the best possible treatment and pray for peace of mind for Alwin during the recovery phase.

Jere Wolf, Melanie Zimmer's dad had bacterial pneumonia, which him to go into congestive heart failure. An echocardiogram indicates his aortic valve is narrowed and needs replaced as they say a 1mm narrowing is cause for replacement and he is at 8mm and if it does not get replaced (in California) the vicious cycle of congestive heart failure (CHF) will repeat itself. The doctor also said that the CHF could have made it look as though he had a heart attack, but they think he just went into CHF. His heart function is at 30% down 10% from a

few months back. An ultrasound of his remaining kidney shows a cyst. The greatest news is that all the doctors agree that he can fly home, as at first they were saying we would need to drive back and with the stops needed to prevent blood clots it would have taken at least 6 days so the news is good. Thanks again for sharing your prayers with us.

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 on 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 was in remission but it has appeared again and she will begin chemo again..

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, came back with ZERO SCANS again in December 2013! Matt 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

Erica had surgery on 7 January 2014, with ten surgeons and a huge surgical team for what is estimated to be a ten hour operation for a non-malignant brain tumor. They got most, but not all of the tumor, things seem good for now. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying close attention, doing their very best and for a good outcome. Pray for peace of mind for Erica's family as healing and treatment continues.

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.

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.

Financial Guidance and Employment

Charlie is in need of both financial guidance and employment. After many years in the aerospace industry, he is looking for a place to employ his talents to the mutual benefit of a company. He asks that you pray for God to guide him to a new place to allow him to gain an even financial keel.

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

Guidance

Laurie is going through very trying personal problems right now. Please help her to open her heart to God's solutions to her problems.

Helene and her family ask your prayers for them as they deal with the loss of Alan, husband and father.

Stephanie seems to be very deeply into post partum depression after her baby was born prematurely. Please pray for her Mother in Law who is going a great distance to help Stephanie and her new Grandson. Pray that Stephanie will be able to direct her attention outward, rather than inward.

William is an elderly man living with his Son and Daughter in-law. William is causing trouble in the family because of his demanding ways and continually using bad language. The family is at wit's end to know how to handle him and will appreciate your guidance and prayers.

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 his family. As a result he has had a serious problem with keeping the civil law. Please pray for Brandon that he will return to the Lord and the many problems will be eventually settled. Pray the hurt he has caused so many will be helped with our Lord's care and love.

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

Earl to read and understand Scriptures he has been given.

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.

Consecration

Rev Roy Morales-Kuhn was consecrated as a bishop on 19 January 2014, at Canterbury Chapel in Alabama. Roy is now the Bishop of the Diocese of the Midwest. Please pray for guidance for him as he takes up this responsibility and ask the God to send the Holy Ghost into his heart for strength and singleness of purpose. Roy is a great man, but this job needs God's Help; with it he will prevail. Details

here, by the way: http://www.faithfulcenturion.org/bishop_roy/catalog.html

New Ministers

Bishop Eduardo Dominguez of the AOC travels to Peru later this month to ordain, God willing, on 26 January 2014, two men to the presbyterate (ministry or office of priest) of the Church of God Renato de la Jara and Antonio Garabito. He will be assisted by the Rev Brian Gomez, of Arequipa. Brian is a long standing member of the AOC who introduced Bishop Neel to the AOC.

Don Fultz was ordained on 15 December 2013, at St. Peter's Anglican Orthodox Church in Statesville, North Carolina, by Bishop Jerry L. Ogles. Please pray for Don to do his very best at fulfilling the special responsibilities he has taken on and give thanks for his commitment.

AOC Congregations

Rev Paul Thompson, pastor of Christ Anglican Church (AOC) in Oakland, Iowa, asks you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter the hearts of their congregation that they might find better ways to serve our Lord and bring the Word to those around them.

Rev Rick Reid asks that you pray for Saint Andrews Anglican Church in Newton, North Carolina. They would like to see their congregation grow to the point is it self-sustaining and vibrant. The congregation asks that you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter into their hearts and inspire them to do their best to further His Will.

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.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (Hulbert Field, Florida), 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)

Thanksgiving

Hap, Dru and Jack Arnold give thanks for safe travel to Seattle this past week.

Tuck Arnold gives thanks for safe travel to Seattle this past week.

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 Mouner 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
9 February 2014	Dru Arnold – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
16 February 2014	Dru Arnold – Septuagesima
23 February 2014	Dru Arnold – Sexagesima
2 March 2014	Dru Arnold – Quinquagesima
5 March 2014	Dru Arnold – Ash Wednesday

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

9 February 2014 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

16 February 2014 – Septuagesima – Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

23 February 2014 – Sexagesima – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

2 March 2014 – Quinquagesima – 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**

5 March 2014 – Ash Wednesday – Evening Prayer - Service start time 1900 (7:00 pm); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 1845 (6:45 pm); **Time 1900 (9:00 pm); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**