



Faithful Centurion Anglican Orthodox Church

# The Sunday next before Easter commonly called Palm Sunday

Sunday Report



Today was the Sunday next before Easter, which is commonly called Palm Sunday from Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The over night low was 43°F and sunrise brought Mount Olympus a marine layer which soon dissipated to bright blue skies; by the time church ended, the temperature had climbed to 60°F. The nice weather brought two people to church, once again not so surprising as Rev Jack is still in Okinawa, Japan and had Morning Prayer about 16 hours ago. You may notice Rev Hap has a short haircut, to be precise – no hair. That is because this two weeks ago he was visiting Brian Smith whose lung cancer is advancing. If you would please pray for Brian and his wife Mel, as well as Sarah and Rev Geordie, as Sarah is in a similar situation, we would all greatly appreciate it.

## **Hymn 55 – Ride on! ride on in majesty!**

Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;  
O Savior meek, pursue thy road  
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

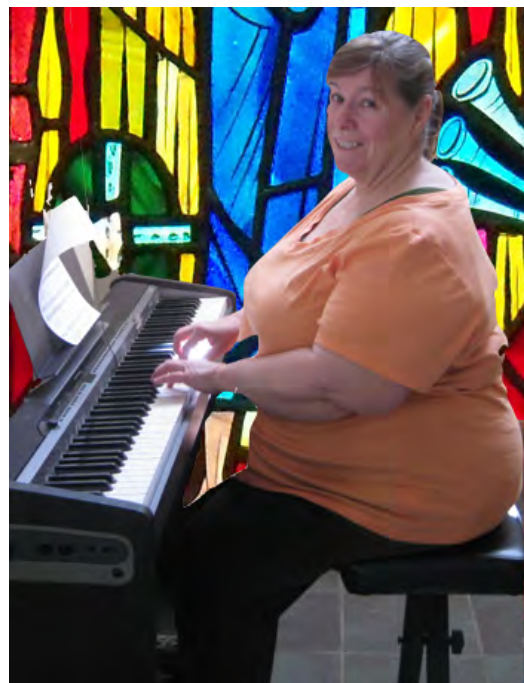
Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
The angel-squadrons of the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
the Father on his sapphire throne  
expects his own anointed Son.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

For Palm Sunday, we took the leap out of our normal set of hymns to pick one traditional for this time of year. It is a beautiful hymn, with a message spot on for this Sunday.



### *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 some great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

It will be of little avail to the people, that the laws are made by men of their own choice, if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood; if they be repealed or revised before they are promulgated, or undergo such incessant changes that no man, who knows what the law is to-day, can guess what it will be to-morrow. Law is defined to be a rule of action; but how can that be a rule, which is little known, and less fixed?

*James Madison*  
Federalist No. 62, 1788

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

*Psalm 33:6*

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

*Proverbs 16:25*

Ye have feared the sword; and I will bring a sword upon you, saith the Lord GOD.

*Ezekiel 11:8*

And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them...

*St. Mark 6:11*

I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

*St. John 17:14*

For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

*I Corinthians 3:19-20*

Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

*St. Titus 1:15-16*

A good man may be overtaken in a fault, but the grace of God shall recover him to repentance so that he shall not be utterly cast down.

*Matthew Henry*  
17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century English pastor and author

To tell us, as some do... that the early churches were a model of perfection and purity is absurd. Even in apostolic days, it appears there were abundant errors both in doctrine and practice. To us... that clergymen ought never to handle controversial subjects and never to warn their people against erroneous views is senseless and unreasonable... Surely the dumb dog, and the sleeping shepherd are the best allies of the wolf, the thief,

and the robber... Does anyone ask me, What is the best safeguard against false doctrine? I answer... The Bible... regularly read... prayed over... studied.

*JC Ryle*  
19<sup>th</sup> century Anglican bishop and author  
(Knots Untied, pp.366-367)

There are only two religions in the world. One is that religion that wants to convince you that you are basically okay. The other is that religion that wants to convince you that, if left to yourself, you are entirely lost. The first ... wants to tell you that, yes, there is God, but that all that he requires of you is that you should be a decent person. The other ... which is the religion of the Bible ... tells us that, yes, there is God and it does not deny that His followers are to be good. But it goes on to tell us that this ... holy God ... requires not just a general obedience to His LAW... it tells us that ... if any rescuing is going to get done, it is going to have to be done by God Himself.

*Garth Neel*  
21<sup>st</sup> century Anglican Orthodox bishop – Canada

The United States government is the ultimate giant unworkable mess. It is a living cargo cult where everyone marches around following routines that are supposed to yield great prosperity, but never do. The processes themselves are broken and make no sense, but the cargo culturers of government cannot and will not hear that. They know that the government will magically make everything work. Because government is progress. Government is modernity. Government is magic... Our... cargo culters invoke FDR and JFK, they talk about the New Deal and the Great Society, they make grand promises and roll out big programs, and then they wait for it all to work. They don't understand themselves how or why it would work. But government is magic and the appearance of a thing is just as good as a real deal. Build a website and it will work. Pass a law and they will come. Get a degree and you're competent. There is no reason to know how to do a thing. You don't need engineers or competent men. All you need to do is remember that great dreams of the past, listen to a few inspirational JFK speeches and then carve a computer out of wood and wait for free health care to arrive. In cargo cult America, the food is free, the cell phones are free, and the money can be printed forever because government is magic.

*Daniel Greenfield*  
21<sup>st</sup> century American commentator  
(Government is Magic, 10-27-13)

### *Palm Sunday*

The name Palm Sunday comes from the palm leaves, along with clothing and other honors strewn along Jesus' path as He came in to Jerusalem the first day of the week before His crucifixion. Of interest, only Jesus knew of the upcoming crucifixion, every one else, including Jews, Romans and the Christians, thought he was making a triumphant entrance in to the city to take control of things and kick the Roman occupation force out. The moon was almost full, this was the year of the Messiah according to Daniel. Jesus chose the route into the city, through the King's Gate. The people saw Him coming and met him at the Mount of Olives. They expected Him to come in and proclaim His rule. And that He did, but not in the way the people were looking for. Those who thought of Him as Lord looked for a Kingdom of this World to be established. Sunday was a day of triumph and fulfilled the



anticipation of the Jews of a day for which they had waited four centuries. The Messiah had finally come, at the time predicted by scripture. They were certain that He would free them from the burdensome and cruel yoke of Roman rule. The Jews would finally be on top of the power pyramid. They would rule the world under Him! Yet, that was not to be. The day in the temple! Holy Cow! Here their savior was throwing people out of the temple, not throwing the Romans out of Jerusalem. They were sad to learn He came not to rule this world, for that time was not yet come; He came to give them the key to eternal salvation. He came to take them from this veil of tears to a state of perfect freedom. They wanted someone to throw the Romans out and all God sent them was the key to eternal life. What a disappointment!

### *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.

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 134-137, with the Collect first:

### **The Sunday next before Easter, commonly called Palm Sunday.**

*The Collect.*

**A**LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility; Mercifully grant, that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ This Collect is to be said every day, after the Collect appointed for the day, until Good Friday.

Dru Arnold read the Epistle for today, which came from Paul's letter to the Philippians, starting at the Fifth Verse of the Second Chapter.

Paul reminds us that if Christ, the Son of God, was obedient to God, we should so be. Also, as a result of that obedience, God hath given Jesus the name to which all of earth should bow.

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



*This morning's Gospel* comes from the Gospel of Saint Matthew, starting at the First Verse of the Twenty-Seventh Chapter and tells the story of Jesus' trial, crucifixion and death. The Gospel was read by in parts, with Hap as the Reader, Jack as Jesus and Judas and Pontius Pilate, Dru as Mrs. Pilate. We all read the Crowd part together.

The normally powerful Gospel seems even more powerful when read as a play, so to speak. The crowd's part is very hard to read as it reminds us of our dark side. If you did not make it to church today, please find someone to read this with in parts. It is an uncomfortable experience that you nonetheless should not miss.

***Gospel of Saint Matthew***  
*starting at the First Verse of the Twenty-Seventh Chapter*

*Reader:* The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew: When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death: And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor. Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, Saying,

*Judas:* I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.

*Reader:* And they said,

***Crowd:* What is that to us? see thou to that.**

*Reader:* And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself. And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said,

***Crowd:* It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood.**

*Reader:* And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Wherefore that field was called, The field of blood, unto this day. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value; And gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord appointed me. And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying,

*Pilate:* Art thou the King of the Jews?

*Reader:* And Jesus said unto him,

*Jesus:* Thou sayest.

*Reader:* And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. Then said Pilate unto him,

*Pilate:* Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee?

*Reader:* And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly. Now at that feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would. And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas. Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them,

*Pilate:* Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ?

*Reader:* For he knew that for envy they had delivered him. When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying,

*Pilate's Wife:* Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him.

*Reader:* But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus. The governor answered and said unto them,

*Pilate:* Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you?

*Reader:* They said,

***Crowd:* Barabbas.**

*Reader:* Pilate saith unto them,

*Pilate:* What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?

*Reader:* They all say unto him,

***Crowd:* Let him be crucified.**

*Reader:* And the governor said,

*Pilate:* Why, what evil hath he done?

*Reader:* But they cried out the more, saying,

***Crowd:* Let him be crucified.**

*Reader:* When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying,

*Pilate:* I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.

*Reader:* Then answered all the people, and said,

***Crowd:* His blood be on us, and on our children.**

*Reader:* Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying,

***Crowd:* Hail, King of the Jews!**

*Reader:* And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him. And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross. And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull, They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink. And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. And sitting down they watched him there; And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left. And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, And saying,

***Crowd:* Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.**

*Reader:* Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,

***Crowd:* He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.**

*Reader:* The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying,

*Jesus:* Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?

*Reader:* that is to say,

*Jesus:* My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

*Reader:* Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said,

***Crowd:* This man calleth for Elias.**

*Reader:* And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. The rest said,

***Crowd:* Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him.**

*Reader:* Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

*Moment of Silence*

*Reader:* And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many. Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying,

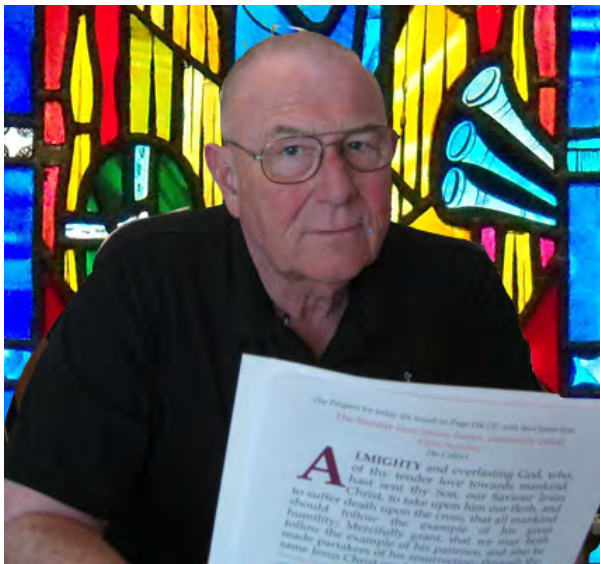
***Crowd:* Truly this was the Son of God.**

## Please read this out loud.

Having read this, do you see yourself in the crowd? The crowd were not a random group of bad Jews, the crowd **is us**. There is a little or more of the crowd in each of us. Uncomfortable? Yes. But, sadly very real. Yet, if we realize this, we can act to make ourselves less of the crowd and more of the Christ. For in us each is the crowd and the crown. We chose, each of us, which it will be, crowd or crown. One simple letter of difference, yet the gap between the two is bridged only by Christ.

### *Sermon – Reverend Hap 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:

... thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility; Mercifully grant, that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection...

In the Collect, we acknowledge God sent His Son to be our Savior. Think about that, the Creator, Lord and Master of the Universe sent His only Son to live amongst us and not just provide us with instruction and leadership, but to give His earthly life as a one time sacrifice for our sin that we might be accounted as perfect in our final accounting, the resurrection. How much did

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<sup>1</sup> It was said that I looked sad in this picture. I did, while this sermon is good, I think anyway, it is not what I preached today. I talked about the week that was, Holy Week, the events and consequences, for us today and for those of that day. I will try to develop it and write it down for next year. Suffice it for now to read the article on Holy Week and consider those who welcomed Jesus in to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday condemned Him to death on Good Friday. Consider also what people miss who come to church only on Palm Sunday and Easter, or even just Easter. From triumph to triumph with no understanding of what all this really involves. I beseech you to read about Holy Week.



God value His Son? Consider what Paul tells us - *Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Jesus set an example of humility and patience, both rare qualities in us, that are impossible for us to follow without God's help, hence the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost was sent to us that we might have understanding, comfort, strength, perseverance, courage, inspiration; all things we fall short on. With Jesus' sacrifice and the help of the Holy Ghost to follow Him, turning our backs on this world, we can be part of His resurrection. The resurrection itself sets a pattern that we should follow. We must first die, that is to stop our sinning, then rise again, that is to live, with humility and patience like the example Jesus set for us. We must resurrect our lives and transform them into something new. There was a reason why Easter was set in the spring time. Not only was it close to the actual time of His death and rising again, but it came at a time where the flowers bloomed anew, having been dead in winter, as Christ had been dead, and rose again, just as those flowers bloom again.

Jesus set the standard of obedience to God's will and He expects us to follow Him. It is a hard thing to do. We want to be in charge, we want to do what we want! It is hard to do what God wants. We just plain don't want to do what we need to do, what we must do. It is hard! But, do you think your path is harder than that set forth for Him as laid out in the Gospel for today? And in the end, the path we must follow will still be easier than if we refuse to follow Him and try and forge our own path. We will be far happier if we follow his example and lead a righteous and steadfast life, full of grace and humility, as well as patience.

Think about that before you do what you want to do. Is what you want in line with what God wants? Think about the answer. If you let the Holy Ghost in to your heart you will know the answer, you will know what you are supposed to do. You may not like it, but you will know it. Which is more comforting than the World's way, which seems to go off in every which direction, and they are never certain about anything. However, we can be certain about what we know, what believe and we can translate that certainty into our actions.

Jesus knew what was coming, how much it would hurt both His Body and Soul as He went through with the crucifixion and subsequent descent in to Hell. Yet, He also knew this was God's Will that we might live. If He did this for you, how can you not follow Him wherever His Will takes you? If He was willing to do that for all of us, then how can we not repay Him to the best of our ability? His Sacrifice demands that we repay Him to the best of our ability, by the sheer nature of it, his perfection being offered in place of our imperfection.

Recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on this day so many years ago. Only Jesus knew of the upcoming crucifixion, every one else, including Jews, Romans and the Christians, thought he was making a triumphant entrance in to the city to take control of things and kick the Roman occupation force out. The moon was almost full, this was the year of the Messiah according to Daniel. Jesus chose the route into the city, through the King's Gate. The people saw Him coming and met him at the Mount of Olives. They expected Him to come in and proclaim His rule. And that He did, but not in the way the people were looking for. Those who thought of Him as Lord looked for a Kingdom of this World to be established. Sunday was a day of triumph and fulfilled the

anticipation of the Jews of a day for which they had waited four centuries. The Messiah had finally come, at the time predicted by scripture. They were certain that He would free them from the burdensome and cruel yoke of Roman rule. The Jews would finally be on top of the power pyramid. They would rule the world under Him! As the week went on, they found that was not to be. He did not come to rule this world, but to bring us to His World. He came to give them the key to eternal salvation. He came to take them from this veil of tears to a state of perfect freedom. They wanted someone to throw the Romans out and all God sent them was the key to eternal life. What a disappointment!

By the way, the Chief Priests, who had so much invested in their 613 laws, likely searched far and wide for the crowd to convict Jesus of the crimes they found against their system. Their system, not God's. Remember, there are none so blind as those who will not see. They would not see because what was being shown to them was a new way that would interfere with their comfortable way of living. A new way that asked for them, no demanded of them, accountability unto God for their actions. While that crowd was no self-forming group naturally set on condemning Jesus, but a handpicked gang. At the same time, many of those in the crowd who condemned Him the morning of Good Friday were in the crowd that welcomed Him to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. What a difference five days can make.

Make no mistake, we are that crowd. And, like Pilate, no matter what we say, we cannot wash our hands of the responsibility. Thus, we must separate ourselves from the crowd. Separate, that is to make ourselves holy, set aside.

When the time comes, how will you ACT?

It is by our actions we are known.

### **Be of God - Live of God - Act of God**

#### *Bishop Ogles' Sermon*

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

#### **Sermon Notes**

The Sunday next before Easter commonly called Palm Sunday  
St Andrew's Anglican Orthodox Church  
13 April 2014, Anno Domini (In the Year of our Lord)

#### **The Sunday next before Easter, commonly called Palm Sunday.**

*The Collect.*

**A**LMIGHTY and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility; Mercifully grant, that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ This Collect is to be said every day, after the Collect appointed for the day, until Good Friday.



The Bible is populated with a number of Great Lone Hills that rise majestically

from the dunes and deserts of the wilderness of sin. That which we approach today in observing the impending crucifixion of Christ is the great mountain of grace and mercy at Calvary – a mountain of unmerited mercy and grace for the chosen of God. It was foreshadowed by the interdicted sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham in the same mountain range as that of Calvary. These smaller mountains of God's grace are like small foothills of promise that rise in growing measure toward the heights of Everest which is the true Calvary.

The sacrifice of Christ was the consummation of all of God's prophecies of redemption, salvation, and atonement. It was the final act that opened the floodgates of mercy and the fountain of eternal life for all who are those of faith. There was nothing reasonable about the sacrifice of Christ. He came to shed His life's blood for those who were at enmity with Him and His Father. As our fathers climbed each successive mountain of grace and prophecy, their perspective prevented their clear view of the ultimate mountain of greatest towering stature that loomed beyond the crest of the last lesser mountain that foreshadowed Calvary. Mount Moriah upon whose brow, Abraham would have sacrificed Isaac, precluded the full view of that sacrificial fulfillment in Christ. As well was the fullness of the Promise occluded from the view of Moses upon Mount Nebal. It was the faith of Abraham, Moses, and others in the satisfaction of the benefits of salvation that made the coming reality of the redemption an accomplished and known fact centuries before its actual fulfillment.

As we begin our observance of Holy Week, it will be revealing to our souls if we view the significant events of the week in order of their occurrence:

**The entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on the Lord's Day.** *On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, (John 12:12)* This was the day that the Passover Lamb was to be set aside and kept for its sacrifice on the eve of Passover. Truly, Christ coming into Jerusalem to be kept until the 14th Nisan was the full picture of our Passover in Christ. *Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.* (1 Cor 5:7-8) The unleavened bread with which we observe the Passover represents the truth and sincerity of Christ our Passover.

It is noteworthy of the fickle and wicked nature of man that the same people who were shouting Hosanna at the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem were the same who would be shouting for His crucifixion less four days later.

*On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord. And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt* (John 12:12-15)

Christ rode into Jerusalem on a donkey to express His humility. He had travelled to Bethlehem on a donkey at the beginning of His life. At the close of His life, He again rides into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people cast palm branches before Him shouting "Hosanna" a word of Hebrew origin Ho - see us, Yasha- na (save). This is why we refer to the day as Palm Sunday. It is the day that we, like Christ, begin our observance of Holy Week in preparation for our Passover in Christ. (**Explain Passover: Exodus 12**)

The Jewish rulers were enraged at the honor the people showed to Christ. They

could have been part of the celebration, but chose to be part of the gloom and hate. The *Pharisees therefore said among themselves, Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him.* They conceived in their hearts to destroy the source of their anguish. The devil, like governments, can tolerate no opposition.

**Jesus would observe the Passover meal the night of His taking** by the Jews in the Garden at Gethsemane. He would serve the meal to Judas, and the disciples, knowing beforehand that the disciples would flee from Him once the tables were turned against Him, and Judas would betray Him with a 'kiss.' As Mary had anticipated His coming Passion (unwittingly), and bath the feet of Christ with ointment, Christ will now signal that act of humility by bathing the feet of His disciples at the Passover meal.

**On the eve before His crucifixion**, the Lord went into the Garden at Gethsemane to pray. He took His three closest disciples, Peter, James, and John, who could not keep awake even in the last moments of the life of Christ. We, too, cannot keep our attention on the Word even during the sermon most frequently. How vain and fickle are we.

When the Jewish soldiers came to take Jesus captive in the Garden, His identity was pointed out by Judas who went to Christ and kissed His cheek, thus betraying the Lord of glory with a kiss. *And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him. 48 But Jesus said unto him, Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?* (Luke 22:47-48)

That was a betrayal of eternal repercussions for Judas, and for us. *Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons.* John 18:3

The courageous Peter drew a sword and severed the ear of one of the guards. He had much courage in the presence of Christ, yet, when separated from Christ in the Garden, that same Peter denied Christ shamefully three times in the night.

Christ (the true High Priest) was taken to the Jewish High Priest where He was mocked, beaten and ridiculed. He was blasphemed and the Sanhedrin presumed to interrogate the Son of God. Having falsely accused Him, they led Him to Pilate the Roman Proconsul. Herod would be considered a pretty good Democrat or Republican today – he was quite politically correct. He found no fault in Christ, but wished to pass the buck by sending Jesus to Herod who also mocked Christ and tried to humiliate Him. He then returned Jesus to Pilate. King Herod and the Proconsul had previously been bitter enemies, but in their mutual estrangement to Christ, they became friends at this time.

The devil's children are united in their opposition to God always. To be honest, even the Gentile, Pontius Pilate did attempt to set Jesus free, but the moment he attempted to do this, the Jews raged against him and threatened him with a charge against his allegiance to Caesar.

Pilate, after an established tradition of setting one prisoner free at Passover, decided to offer up Christ as the man to be set free. The Jewish rulers would hear none of this. They demanded, instead that Barabbas, a depraved murderer, be set free instead. Let me tell you here and now, that Barabbas represented each one of us. Because of Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we all, who were offenders against God and man, have been set free.

**Please note this political decision of poor and cowardly Pilate:** *And Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, 14 Said unto them, Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him: No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him. I will therefore chastise him, and release him. (For of necessity he must release one unto them at the feast.) And they cried out all at once, saying, Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas: (Who for a certain sedition made in the city, and for murder, was cast into prison.) Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them. But they cried, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. And he said unto them the third time, Why, what evil hath he done? I have found no cause of death in him: I will therefore chastise him, and let him go. And they were instant with loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed. And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required. And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will. (Luke 23:13-25)*

Pilate should run for President of the United States since his politics so corruptly match those of our recent administrations.

So Christ was beaten with many stripes, tortured and delivered up for crucifixion – a crown of thorns on His head to ridicule His claim to be the Son of God. He was cast without the gate of Jerusalem as the Son of the Owner of the Vineyard. Along the Via Dolorosa, He carried His heavy cross – the cross intended for you and me. He was driven all the way to Golgotha on Calvary's brow and crucified between to criminals. The events of that day will await further revelation in next week's sermon for Easter.

Are you ready to partake of the Communion of the Lord's Table?

### **Roy Morales-Kuhn, Bishop and Pastor - St. Paul's Anglican Church - Anglican Orthodox Church**

Bishop Roy is pastor of the biggest AOC parish West of the Mississippi and is in charge of the Diocese of the MidAmerica. Roy's sermons are well done and easy to understand. You always get something good out of them. Today is no exception.



Palm Sunday - 13 April 2014

#### **Thy King cometh...having salvation**

Ps 22 - O.T. Lesson; Zech 9:9-12 - N.T. Lesson;  
Mark 11:1-11

- 9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.
- 10 And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.

11 As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water.

12 Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee; (Zech 9:9-12)

In this prophecy from Zechariah we find an interesting conundrum. A greatly anticipated King, one who is coming to Jerusalem to rule Zion, and yet he is riding on a colt of a donkey. Interesting in that a colt is not trained and may possibly show the rider an unsteady journey. The King is not coming on a great white stallion or in a stately chariot, no he is coming upon the lowest, least regal of all beasts of burden. A donkey. And yet in this most humble state as he enters the capital, he still has the power to depose the mighty, reach out to those who need him and rule over the whole earth.

So the conundrum or paradox is a humble entry to a majestic finale. He will rule, he will conquer all those who oppose him, he will offer peace to all...even unto the heathen. None of this matches our understanding of rule. We, like the Jews, are looking for a majestic ruler. But as we read in the prophetic psalm 22, '...he is a worm, the lowest creature...' Everything defies our understanding of what God is doing. In great humility, Jesus comes to save his own, he comes as a helpless baby, grows up an obedient son, respecter of Jewish tradition concerning social understanding. His ministry does not begin until Jesus is considered an elder by the standards of the Jewish custom. At age 30, Jesus starts his earthly ministry.

How does Zechariah tie up this Messianic prophecy ? The last two verses help to explain to those of that time that their exile as prisoners of Babylon, Greece, Rome and in a spiritual sense, a separation from God, is now over. First by the blood of the original covenant made by God with Abraham, which will be satisfied by the shedding of the blood of the unblemished Lamb of God. Then by taking these prisoners out of the pit (a type or shadow of death) and giving them the hope created by the stronghold of God, Zechariah then points out the double blessing given to them being saved.

Double portions are depicted as being above and beyond the expect or traditional. "Not only will you be blessed, you will be doubly blessed". Now to look at the New Testament record of this prophecy being fulfilled.

- 1 And when they came nigh to Jerusalem, unto Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples,
- 2 And saith unto them, Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him.
- 3 And if any man say unto you, Why do ye this? say ye that the Lord hath need of him; and straightway he will send him hither.
- 4 And they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met; and they loose him.
- 5 And certain of them that stood there said unto them, What do ye, loosing the colt?
- 6 And they said unto them even as Jesus had commanded: and they let them go.
- 7 And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him. (Mark 11:1-7)

The King of kings and Lord of lords was a borrower. Think about it. The Lord had to borrow a mount to ride into his city. He will later borrow a room to serve the Last Supper. He had borrowed a boat several times for transportation and once as a waterborne pulpit. He will at the last be buried in a borrowed tomb. The King comes to

us in a most humble manner. There are so many levels of symbolism here in these seven verses. ‘...found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met...’ The two disciples found the colt at a crossroads. Did this symbolize the right way and the wrong way? Just an interesting point one may consider. He is not coming at this time, as a majestic conqueror, no he comes riding on an untrained colt of a donkey. A colt which had never been ridden. The idea that the untrained colt may not let Christ ride in safety or possibly create a problem that would make the Lord look foolish and yet Jesus took that risk.. Jesus did not have a fancy saddle or way to ride on the donkey colt in comfort. They put garments on the colt. Nothing fancy, just cloaks from those who followed Jesus. He was most humble.

- 8 And many spread their garments in the way: and others cut down branches off the trees, and strawed them in the way.
- 9 And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord:
- 10 Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. (Mark 11:8-10)

Even as Christ came in such a humble manner, the people reacted to his presence as if they were welcoming the King of kings. The reputation of Christ, having preceded his arrival in Jerusalem, is what most likely caused the people to welcome him as King. Now as we know in hindsight, the people did not understand why Jesus came to Jerusalem at this time of the year. Passover, having been observed for hundreds of years, was now going to be fulfilled once and for all. The great Pascal Lamb, the spotless, sinless, Lamb of God, was coming to Jerusalem to be offered as the Sacrifice that would cover the sins of the world. The crowds were looking to the establishment of an earthly kingdom. The end of brutal oppression by the Romans, the end of poverty, want, hunger, and all things that were bad in the time that Jesus was on earth. Two different concepts were about to collide. In less than a week, these very people, who now are praising Jesus, saying Hosanna, blessing him in the name of the Lord, would be cursing him. They would be calling for his death. They would condemn Christ and scream for him to be crucified.

What a fickle people. But we really shouldn't condemn them or look down on them too much, for we do the same thing. We are willing to follow Jesus when things are going well. But we get angry at God when things seem to not be going our way. We have to bear in mind that as a redeemed people we must always pray that we be led into the way of light. We must seek to do *that which is right in the sight of the Lord*.

- 11 And Jesus entered into Jerusalem, and into the temple: and when he had looked round about upon all things, and now the eventide was come, he went out unto Bethany with the twelve. (Mark 11:11)

This last verse is interesting in how it sums up the very busy day. After all the crowds and the accolades, Jesus goes into the temple. He looks around at every thing, taking a mental note of the situation and then because it is getting late he leaves. He goes to Bethany to a friends house to spend the night taking his twelve disciples with him. How very ordinary. Here after what would turn the head of an ordinary person, all the celebration and cheering, Jesus goes on to an ordinary function. End of the day, time for supper and then get some much needed rest. He is with friends, he is at a friend's house.

What struck me about this was how calm Jesus was. In less than a week he is going to be abandoned by all of these friends, he is going to be beaten, whipped with a leather

whip tipped with metal shards. He is going to be abused, his beard ripped out by the roots, a crown of heavy thorns pounded upon his head. He will be mocked, spat upon, ridiculed and eventually executed in a most cruel way. He will be crucified.

And the most amazing aspect of this, he will do this willingly. He will stay in Jerusalem and face this most horrible death because he came to do his Father's will. **"Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will but thine, be done."** (Luke 22:42)

Let us spend this week reflecting on that great passion, the great sacrifice that God did in giving his Son Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world.

Let us pray:

**T**HE LORD hear thee in the day of trouble, we will rejoice in thy salvation, save, Lord, and hear us, O King of heaven, when we call upon thee. In particular, we implore thy grace and protection for the ensuing week. Keep us temperate in all things, and diligent in our several callings. Grant us patience, under our affliction. Give us grace to be just and upright in all our dealings; quiet and peaceable; full of compassion; and ready to do good to all men, according to our abilities and opportunities. Direct us in all our ways. Defend us from all dangers and adversities; and be graciously pleased to take us, and all who are dear to us, under thy fatherly care and protection. These things, and whatever else thou shalt see to be necessary and convenient to us, we humbly beg, through the merits and mediation of thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.  
*Amen*



### *Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sermon*

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



#### **Why Christ Died**

Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 27:1-54

Palm Sunday

April 13, 2014

Why did Christ die? Our reading from the Gospel of Matthew is the account of the crucifixion of Christ. It is not a pretty scene. It is a scene of intense suffering and death. And we are accustomed to hearing Christ died for us. But just what did we need that was so important Christ was willing to come down from Heaven and be tortured to death to accomplish? Why did Christ die? That's what I want to talk about this morning

Christ died as an example for you and me. In the Collect for today we asked God to mercifully grant that we may follow Christ's example, and Jesus Himself said He has given us an example (Jn. 13:15). His example is the life of Godliness. I wonder if we are



really serious about Godliness anymore. I wonder if we really want what Paul, in Philippians called "the mind of Christ." It seems to me that the modern Christian is more concerned about what Christ can do to enhance his self-esteem and give him warm fuzzy feelings than he is about Godliness. I wonder, do you long for Godliness? Do you have Godliness as the goal of your life? Can you say it is your intent to be able to say with Paul, "for me to live is Christ?"

And let us notice something about the Godliness of Christ. It did not consist of ecstatic experiences. We do not read of Him speaking in tongues, dancing, jumping up and down or waving His hands around in worship. We do not read about Him seeking warm fuzzy feelings about God. We see Him as a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. We see in Him a life of prayer. We see in Him a life of worship, meaning the staid old worship of the liturgy of the Jewish Book of Prayer called the Sidur, which is very much like our Anglican Book of Common Prayer because the Sidur was the foundation of Christian worship.

And we see in Christ a dedication to duty. Christ, God the Son, did His duty to God the Father, regardless of the cost. What would you say is the greatest problem of the modern, Western Church? I think it is that we want all the benefits of being Christians, without any of the cost of being Christians. We want peace with God but we don't want Godliness. We want to go to Heaven but we don't want to be Heavenly minded. We want God to pamper us like spoiled children rather than suffer hardship as good soldiers of the cross. In short, we don't want to pay the price of becoming and being Godly people. But Christ gave us an example of Godliness that paid the price. He gave us an example of Godliness even unto death. Christ gave us an example of obedience to duty, even unto death. We need to pay attention to and emulate His example today.

Christ also died as the sacrifice for our sins. He died as our substitute. We remember how the Pharisees shouted "Give us Barabbas." We remember that Pilate set Barabbas free and crucified Christ. That means Christ died on Barabbas' cross. He died on your cross, too. He died in your place. On the cross He suffered your separation from God. He died your death. He suffered your hell. And instead of separation from God He gives His Spirit to live within you. Instead of death He gives you everlasting life. Instead of hell He gives you Heaven.

I hope you see that I am not talking about academic theories that apply only to seminary students. I am talking about the most important things of life and eternity. I am talking about you and what your eternity will be like. And I want to close with this. Jesus died for you. Before God laid the foundations of the world; in that great, timeless eternity when there was only God, He knew you, and He set His heart upon you. He saw your troubles and sorrows, and He saw the dangers of you living in eternity without Him, and He marked you as His own. It is as though He said, "I'm going to heal your broken heart. I'm going to redeem you out of all your troubles. I am going to give you joy and peace like you could never imagine, and you are going to live with Me in My everlasting love forever. I am going to give you a foretaste of that while you live on earth. Yes, your earthly life will have its share of sorrows. That is the nature of living in a fallen world with fallen people, and of being a fallen creature yourself. But in that fallen world, in the midst of your troubles, in the very presence of your enemies, I will prepare a table, a feast for you. My mercies will be upon you. You will dwell in My grace. And I will be with you working in ways you will not even see, making all things work together for your good. And when your life in that valley of the

shadow of death is over, I will bring you into My presence. All the sorrows of earth will be as nothing compared to the joy and wholeness I will give you there. And you will know that this is true, because I will die to accomplish it for you. So have faith, little children. Trust in Me. I can and will do this for you.

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+Dennis Campbell

Bishop, Anglican Orthodox Church Diocese of Virginia

Rector, Holy Trinity Anglican Orthodox Church

Powhatan, Virginia

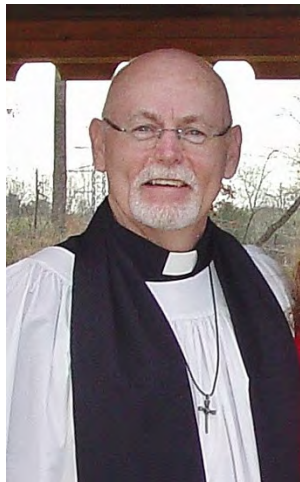
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### Sermon - Rev Rick Reid

We are happy to have a sermon from Reverend Rick Reid, minister of Saint Peter's, whose congregation is right at the Worldwide Headquarters of the Anglican Orthodox Church.



### Holy Week

Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week which is the last week of Lent. We follow Jesus from Palm Sunday, to his death on Good Friday, in preparation for his rising from the dead on Easter Sunday. Let's take a moment to reflect on the events that take place in one of the greatest weeks in the History of Christianity.

We start today with: **Palm Sunday**. Accompanied by his disciples, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt, while crowds of people covered the streets ahead of him with their cloaks and with palm branches, shouting "Hosanna to the Son of David, Blessed is He comes in the name of the Lord." Hosanna in the Highest. This was in fulfillment of the prophecy foretold by

*Zechariah: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.*

Then comes **Monday**: Jesus chased the money-changers out of the Temple. As we read in St. John's Gospel the second chapter, verses: 13-16. <sup>13</sup>And the Jews' Passover was at hand and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: <sup>15</sup>And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the

oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; 16And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.

**On Tuesday** Jesus and the Pharisees have another confrontation in the Temple, and the Pharisees plot to kill Him. Jesus then left the temple and went to the garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives. This is where He delivers the Mount of Olives Discourse also called the Olivet Discourse. Here Jesus talked about the destruction of the temple and the future of Israel.

**Wednesday:** Jesus was in Bethany at the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Judas had gone to the Sanhedrin and offered to lead them to Jesus in exchange for 30 pieces of silver.

**Thursday:** After washing the feet of the disciples, Jesus celebrated Passover, and instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We refer to this day as Maundy Thursday. The word *Maundy* is derived from Middle English and the Old French word *mandé*, and from the Latin *mandatum*, the first word of the Latin phrase: "Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos", **which means in Latin,**

**A new commandment I give unto you**, the statement by Jesus from St. John's Gospel (Chapter 13: verse 34), by which Jesus explained to the Apostles the significance of his action of washing their feet. <sup>34</sup>*A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.* Jesus went to Gethsemane to pray where he was arrested by the Temple guards and taken to an illegal, night session of the Jewish court, the Sanhedrin.

This brings us to **Good Friday:** The Sanhedrin could not condemn a man to death; only the Roman governor could this, so they sent Jesus to Pilate. Pontius Pilate was reluctant to pass sentence on Jesus and sent him to Herod, who ruled Galilee, Jesus' home territory. Jesus would hardly speak to Herod, who got so frustrated, that he sent Jesus back to Pilate. The Jewish authorities and the people demanded that Jesus be crucified, so Pilate washed his hands of the matter and agreed to crucify Jesus. Roman soldiers took him to Golgotha, the place of the skull, where he was crucified.

The Good Friday service is a somber observance of Jesus' crucifixion and death. Good Friday is a day of contrition, repentance and reflection. It is not a day of celebration, but a day of mourning, for the death of Jesus and for the sins of a world that required His death.

**Saturday:** Jesus rested in the tomb while his disciples observed the Sabbath.

On this Palm Sunday, let us all examine our own faithfulness to Christ. Do we cheer Him in, then turn our backs on Him? Or are we prepared to stay with Our Lord in Jerusalem as the atmosphere changes towards Him? Do we dare to stand by Him as He faces constant conflict with the religious leaders? Do we love Him enough to want to wash His weary feet? Do we stay with Him in prayer in the Garden and not fall asleep? Are our bodies and souls drained as He dies on the Cross?

This is what it really means when we cry "Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is He comes in the name of the Lord"

When we reflect on Palm Sunday our faithfulness as we look ahead to this Holy Week, we must examine what it means for us to be holy, set aside, and faithful to our Lord.

It is easy to claim to strive towards holiness when everything seems to be going well; but of the time of trials and tribulations? When we have to suffer endlessly whether through physical or spiritual pain, especially if it is inflicted on us by others, what then?

When God seems far removed from us and all is dark and despondent, what then?

When life seems empty and aimless, what then?

Has our faith rooted itself deeply enough to help us cope with these situations, so that they do not control us? Can we see such situations as growing times in holiness, or better still more Christ-like? Or are we angry or worse yet, despondent? Let's all use this week as a time to grow in faithfulness to Christ. May we all praise God with sincerity and in the knowledge that before we worship the Risen Lord on Easter morning, we must be on our knees praying and thinking about those agonizing moments in Gethsemane, our feet must tread along the streets of Jerusalem, and our souls experience the anguish and grief that the Christ suffered on the cross. Will you trust in the Lord and allow Jesus to die for you, so that you may live for Him? Lord, I pray, give us the courage to follow your son all the way to Calvary. Amen.

### *Rev Bryan Dabney of Saint John's Sunday Sermon*

We are fortunate to have Bryan's Sunday Sermon. If you want people to come to The



Truth, you have to speak the truth, expose the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.

### **Palm Sunday**

In our gospel (St. Mark 11) for today we learned that our Lord entered the city of Jerusalem fulfilling the words of the prophet Zechariah (9:9):

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

Now such a description hardly reflects the image of a kingly personage of the ancient world because they, for the most part, rode about on horses. But consider also Zechariah 14:1-21. The prophet was given to speak again of the Messiah but in a much different fashion. He speaks of him coming with power and great glory to rescue Jerusalem and Judah from the nations which have been gathered together to destroy her. Specifically look at verse 9:

And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.

Thus he who came in humility to bring us the gift of salvation (Zechariah 9), will return in glory to triumph over the forces of darkness and usher in his kingdom (Zechariah 14).

These and other passages regarding the Messiah were given to the writers of Scripture by the Holy Ghost. The gospel accounts contain the very words of our Lord wherein he revealed to the disciples that he must suffer, die and rise to life again, and afterward, to ascend to the very presence of the Father until he returns. Every time we recite the words of the Apostles' or Nicene Creeds, we are proclaiming these important tenets of our faith.

Jesus Christ came to proclaim the good news of salvation; and agreeable to Scripture, he came first as a lowly and humble teacher. He came to satisfy that pressing need of humanity for a Saviour: one who would shed his blood on behalf of his elect so that they might have life eternal with the Godhead. The carnal and the uninformed have even questioned the necessity of his death. We might answer such a query by stating that when Adam and Eve sinned against God they brought death into this world, and ever after, their descendants would bear the infection of original sin. There is nothing human beings can do to save themselves from this hereditary disease. Self-justification cannot wipe us clean, nor could we offer to God anything approximating the value of our lives (Psalm 49:7-8).

Original sin made it necessary for God to enter his creation and take upon himself as the second person of the Trinity the sins of the whole world. As the St. John wrote in his gospel account (1:14) And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth. He had to experience life as a mortal and yet remain sinless. As St. Paul penned in Hebrews (4:15) For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. To co-opt pagan Caesar's quote: Christ came, Christ saw, and Christ conquered.

Consider Isaiah 9:6-7: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Nevertheless, the skeptic and the critic will continue to smirk in denial when they hear those verses. They cannot accept the King of Glory because they have not faith. The words of Scripture may reach their hearts, but the devil comes and snatches away their understanding of it preventing them from accepting our Lord Jesus as the Christ, the Messiah, the Prince of Peace. Their foolish hearts have been darkened, and a veil has descended over their eyes. Thus they have been blinded by the god of this world to the truth of God's word written (II Corinthians 4:4).

We Christians know who our Lord is: he is the Christ, the Son of one, true and living God, who completed his work of redemption and has ascended into heaven where even now he is seated at the right hand of the Father interceding for us until he comes again. While many Jews in our Lord's day accepted him as the Messiah, most did not. And such has been true for people the world over in the years following his ascension. Before every people, kindred and tongue, God, through his witnesses, has set forth his words of life via the gospel of our Lord, for he is that one way, one truth and one life in whose name and under whose blood all who truly believe can find redemption from sin and death.

The Scriptures tell us of Christ's first coming, and of that day in the future when God will send him back to the earth. And when he comes again, he will be riding a fine white horse as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. St. John in the Book of Revelation (19:11-21) was given just such a vision. No more will he ride a humble donkey. No more will he come in humility and seeking to save the lost. He will come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead whose kingdom shall have no end (The Nicene Creed). He will come with great signs and wonders in the heavens and with a mighty host of his angels and saints.

The question is: Will you be ready? Are you watching for his coming? Have you prepared your heart to receive him? Will you run to him when comes, or will you run away from him? We know that he will come to collect his church, but that day and hour has not been given to us. Until then, we must be content to know the times and the seasons. The devil and his minions will tell us that we have plenty of time to make up our minds about salvation, but such is a false choice. We should ever keep our hearts turned toward God and on watch for his imminent return. Keep your lamps trimmed and have extra oil so as not be caught unawares when the Bridegroom cometh to lead us to his marriage feast. We have not been called to wrath, but to salvation. Christ has promised us that he will come again for us and so it is our duty to work in his harvest until he calls us home; and so, in the words of an old hymn, "work for the night is coming when man shall work no more" for Behold, thy King cometh unto thee.

Let us pray:

**O** MOST holy God, who hast made provision for us unworthy sinners through the meritorious life, death, resurrection of thine only begotten Son; empower our witness to those who are mired in sin that they might learn of him and be saved; and this we ask in the name of him who is the King of kings and Lord of lords, even Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

### *After Church Hospitality*

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

After church goodies providers as currently signed up:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
20 April 2013	<b>Opportunity Available – Easter Sunday</b>
27 April 2013	<b>Opportunity Available –First Sunday after Easter</b>

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

### **Why? Prayer is an extremely important activity.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**What should I ask for?**

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

**Updating the Team**

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

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

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

**Travel**

Jack Arnold is on travel 26 March 2014 – 16 April 2014, visiting the Thomas family in Okinawa, Japan.

**Birth**

Joel Phillip Thompson, fifth child of Rev Paul and Elicia Thompson was born 9 February 2014. Both baby and mother are doing fine. Joel battled some jaundice for about three weeks, but he is looking much better and is over 10 pounds. He was baptized 9 March 2014, with a record crowd at church - 28. Please give thanks for the safe birth and pray that Joel will grow into a fine man.

**Birthday**

Dru Arnold celebrated her 59<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 2 February 2014.

### ***Anniversary***

*Hap and Dru Arnold* celebrated their 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 21 February 2014.

### ***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***

*Andrew Scally* passed away after a difficult time on 10 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind for Andrew's family, in particular his son Keith who has been there to help him. Pray for his family to put their trust in our Lord and let God carry their worries as they adjust to his absence.

*Selma Martinez* passed away on 12 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind for her husband Luis, as well as for trust in the Lord for him and the rest of the family, in particular her daughter Andrea.

*Edsel* passed away after a difficult time on 22 March 2014. Please give thanks for Edsel's time here on earth and for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for his family who of necessity remain behind.

*Judy Spencer* left for home on 17 March 2014. Her family will be comforted in the days and weeks ahead for they know that today, she rejoices in the presence of her Lord. Please give thanks for her time here on earth and for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for her husband Christian and their family who of necessity remain behind.

*Dempsey* passed away on 13 March 2014 from the complications of congestive heart failure. Please give thanks for his time here on earth and for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for his family who of necessity remain behind.

*Grace* passed away on 8 March 2014. Please give thanks for her time here on earth and for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Grace and her family who of necessity remain behind.

### ***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***

*Martha and Irene* both have Alzheimer's Disease. Pray that their hearts will stay close to Jesus.

*Walter* has many health issues and is growing weaker and weaker. Pray *Walter* will learn to be able to swallow correctly.

*Joan* has had serious medical problems that have kept her confined. On 26 September 2013, she took a fall. 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***

*Brian* has been treating for upper lung and bronchial area cancer. He has undergone radiation and four courses of chemotherapy; it has not worked. At present, it does not appear there is more the medical people can do. *Brian* has been advised his time here on earth is short. Please pray for a miraculous remission; if that not be God's will, please pray *Brian's* remaining time here on earth might be good and when the time to leave comes, it will be short and acceptable. Help *Brian* and his wonderful wife *Mel* keep their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

*Sarah*, wife of Rev *Geordie* (AOC – UK), has been treating for ovarian cancer. The treatment has not worked and she has been advised her time here on earth is short. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that *Sarah's* remaining time here on earth might be good. Help *Sarah*, *Geordie* and their family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

*Rev. Thomas Brooks* is not improving and being kept alive by artificial machines. Please pray for a miraculous recovery and if that not be God's Will, a rapid passing to home. Help *Thomas' 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.

*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. Right now she is in the hospital. 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**

*Weir* is a survivor of two malignancies (prostate and colon). Recently *Weir* underwent further tests and he will have to have almost all of his large intestine removed. His surgery will be Friday 28 March 2014. All will appreciate your prayer.

*Timothy Howes*, age 90, is expected to undergo resection surgery for a twisted bowel on 16 March 2014, due to his age and other complications this is an extremely tense surgery. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also *Timothy* and his family, in particular his son *Rev Ken*, to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*Melody Summers* of Gold Creek, Montana has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. She is a very special person in the *Gregg* 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 had surgery. Pray for complete remission and that *Mario* and his family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

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

*Liz Strauch* had a pineal cyst, which in the end responded well to a surgical draining last year. Since November 2013, similar symptoms have returned. A CT Scan turned up what is thought to be either a new cyst or an enlarged pineal gland. More testing, including an EEG is in the works. She can no longer work. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for *Liz* and her family, in particular her

husband Ken and sons Caleb and Nathan; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Liz to heal completely.

*Steve* fell from a roof Saturday, 5 April 2014. His injuries were multiple, extensive, severe, and life threatening. He is slowly making improvements. He still has a long road to travel and is still in great need of prayers. Yours are very much appreciated. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Steve and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Steve to heal completely.

*Diane* was hospitalized 25 March 2014, with a serious gastrointestinal related. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Diane and her family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Diane to heal completely.

*Faye* is in the hospital because she is weak has been receiving blood transfusions. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Faye and her family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Faye to heal completely.

*Tom* has heart and kidney problems. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Tom and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Tom to heal completely.

*Harold* has had a severe stroke. He is now home, but his family is looking for a rehabilitation facility to help him recuperate. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Harold and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people caring for him that they might find the best treatment facility to allow Harold to heal completely.

*Amos* was in the hospital a few months ago because of severe eye problems and is back there with the doctors examining him. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Amos and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

*Nathan* has a tumor near his heart. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Nathan and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

*Joe* has had a preliminary ALS diagnosis. Pray the final diagnosis will something that will allow him to continue taking care of his devoted young family. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Joe and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of 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 which cannot be surgically removed due to the size and location. They are going to attempt chemotherapy. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Erica, 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.

*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.

*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* has been having great difficulty breathing. Some days he can barely move, other days he feels almost perfect, he would like to know why and how to avoid the bad. Please pray doctors will find the problem and a solution. Pray he will be able to follow the medical advice. Pray that Mark and his family will be able to put their worry on God's back.

*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.

### **Healing**

*Dallmus* has lost 40 to 50 percent of his sight. Pray he will learn to cope with the situation and that he will trust in God to heal as He will.

*Lucius Dabney* (father of Rev Bryan Dabney) is now at home recovering from an infection. Please pray for a complete healing of the infection and return to health.

*David* has many concussions and unable to go to school, read books, watch TV and has headaches and migraines. He has trouble sleeping and his family will appreciate your prayers for this 10 year old young man.

*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 be set. Movement is very painful and due to a total lack of energy, she is more or less bedridden. Healing is going well at this point, but there is still some to go. 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.

*Gladys* has breast cancer and has had a lumpectomy. She needs to take a year off of her work to have chemo treatments.

*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.

*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.

*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 one more year. He has 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***

*Jane*, US Army Fort Riley, KS, had a tumor, it was removed, it was thought that another had appeared; the pain is very great. She saw her new consulting surgeon and he determined the tumor has NOT returned and her pain is the result of the interior wounds from last year's surgery not being allowed to heal. Long story short...she was on a long-term Army medical profile from the surgical team that performed the surgery last year. The Army docs in Korea and Ft. Riley did not honor that profile and she was on normal unrestricted duty and this did not allow complete healing. She is now on restricted physical duty so she should be just fine in good time. Jane and her family ask that you give thanks for the healing and pray for a full recovery.

*Jim* has been hospitalized and had several operations for cancer the last few years. The physicians discovered a number of spots; but his exam was better than expected—prayer changes things and he thanks you for your prayers. Please continue him in prayer for he will have another scan in April.

*Al* had an abscess found on his liver for which he was hospitalized, it turned out to be benign and will not require surgery, he has been released from the hospital. Please give thanks for this good result and pray for continued healing.

*Elma* is suffering from cancer. She was taken home from the hospital on the advice of her Doctor. We were asked to pray that Elma's remaining time here on earth might be good and that Elma and family might put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry. Since then, Elma's Bishop told us a great Miracle of the Lord is working over Elma. Doctors sent her home to die, but now she seems to be doing all right. On behalf of her, thank you for all of your prayers. Please continue praying for her complete healing.

*Ian Allen* had back surgery on 5 February 2014, which went very very well. He is home and pain free. There is a recovery process ahead, but he has his daughter with him for the next week to help with that. 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 Ian and his family as healing continues.

*Erica* had surgery on 7 January 2014, 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 doing their very best and for a good outcome. Pray for peace of mind for Erica's family as healing and treatment continues.

*Jim Curl* had a stroke November 2013; he has recovered pretty well, but still has memory issues. Jim asks that you give thanks for his great recovery and pray that his memory will continue to improve.

*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.

*Dennis* has heart problems; now the medical people treating him discovered a large mass on his liver which turned out to be a cyst! 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.

*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. While the surgery 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. She still requires 24 hour care, which Mike provides with little help

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. Charlie feels that he has no skills, which is clearly incorrect, but nonetheless he feels that way. While on the one hand, he knows that is not right, on the other hand, he cannot shake that belief. Ask that God send the Holy Ghost into his heart for guidance. In addition, Charlie needs God's guidance as to how to handle his life from this point forward. 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.

*Carmine* is looking for employment. Pray God will guide her and she will accept his guidance; something she has not always done, so your prayers will be especially appreciated.

*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***

*Linda, Rick, Christian and Sawyer* are a family experiencing spiritual, emotional and financial crisis at the current time. Please pray for their guidance as to how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves and more importantly have them draw closer to God and each other.

*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***

*Luis Martinez* had a heart attack on 1 November 2013, and seems to have recovered fairly well. His wife *Selma* passed away on 12 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind for *Luis*, as well as for trust in the Lord for him and the rest of the family.

*Kristen, Rickey and their two children* ask you to pray for grace, wisdom and understanding as they attempt to cope with infidelity, separation and possibly divorce as a result of backsliding from the Lord into the World.

*Erica* is having school exams for the next several weeks. Please pray her mind will be open to what she has learned and her heart opened more and more as the years go by to Jesus.

*Aaron* has a problem seeing is where his life should be leading him. Please pray that he can listen to his father Paul and those around him who want him to work hard and obtain a real education now rather than just coast towards oblivion.

*Danielle* has accepted Christ as her Saviour. Pray she will read the Bible and meditate on His Word so she can grow in him.

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

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

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

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

*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 for her business so that she might remain gainfully employed 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.

### ***Anglican Orthodox Church***

*Christians in the Central African Republic* are experiencing the ravages of a war between the Muslim and Christians. We have both ministers and members of the Anglican Orthodox Church in Central African Republic. Please pray for God's guidance and protection for all persecuted Christians and those around them.

On 21 March 2014, *Faith Theological Seminary* in Gujranwala, Pakistan graduated a class. Please pray the Holy Ghost will fill the hearts of the graduates as they go forth to spread The Word of Jesus Christ our Saviour

*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.

*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. 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)

### *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*

*Nathalie* is teaching English in a small western Ukrainian town where they are having so many problems. Pray for *Nathalie* and others around the world who are standing up for Christian principles in their countries.

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

*Lisa* discovered her 9 year old daughter *Mariah* had been raped. This is in the court system now and we know that prayers are needed for this family. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" James 5:16 *Lisa* says she feels the power of your prayer in God's hand on her heart.

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

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

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

### *Thanksgiving*

*Paul Martin* gives thanks for safe travel last week.



### *Speaking of questions, what is Holy Week? Some kind of Roman thing?*

Not Roman at all, Christian. In fact, the Romans have abandoned or ignored much of the week. The term covers Palm Sunday through Easter.

### *Holy Week*

The Sunday next before Easter is commonly referred to as Palm Sunday. The period between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday is often referred to as Holy Week. Most churchgoing people go to church on Palm Sunday, then to church on Easter Sunday. It's a fairly uplifting time with not a lot of thinking. On Palm Sunday Jesus makes his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. On Easter Sunday there's the joyous resurrection. What's not to like about that?

The thing is, there is a tremendous amount that goes on between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, not all of it joyous, in fact most of it is pretty scary or sad. The beginning of the week was wonderful; in the end the week was even more wonderful. In between was a series of ups and downs the ups a little high and the downs very very deep. It is important to remember as you go through Holy Week that Jesus was in control of all the events of the week. The week starts with the Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem and ends with the death of the Savior on the Cross and the burial of his body in the tomb. It is a week of ups and downs without parallel, the ups a little high and the downs very very deep, deep as Hell you might say, and precedes the most joyous day of the year, the Day of the Resurrection or Easter Sunday.

Jesus has a triumphant entry into the city on the First Day of the Week (Sunday); on Thursday night he celebrates the Passover with his disciples in the Upper Room, he prays and agonizes over what he knows is coming in the garden of Gethsemane; Judas betrays him early Friday morning, his most trusted disciple denies him, not once but three times before the cock crew; the Jews condemn him to Pilate who in turn orders him to be beaten and humiliated; that does not satisfy the Jews and at their request, Pilate condemns a man he knows to be innocent to a horrible death to pacify the crowd of Jews assembled by the priests; Jesus is crucified, asks John to take care of his mother and gives up the ghost; his body is taken down and buried; the disciples are dispersed and discouraged; they have listened to their Lord, but not understood.

Think of this week from the disciples' perspective, on the first day they enter with their leader into Jerusalem in triumph; mid-week they celebrate the joyous feast of the Passover, then their leader is betrayed, defends himself not and is killed. At the time they surely could not think of this as a Holy Week and certainly not a Good Friday. Yet on the first day of the week that follows, our Lord is Risen, Risen indeed and delivers the promise of salvation in person.

It is important to remember as you go through Holy Week that Jesus was in control of all the events of the week.

What a week!

### *Palm Sunday*

The name Palm Sunday comes from the palm leaves, along with clothing and other honors strewn along Jesus' path as He came in to Jerusalem the first day of the week before His



crucifixion. Of interest, only Jesus knew of the upcoming crucifixion, every one else, including Jews, Romans and the Christians, thought he was making a triumphant entrance in to the city to take control of things and kick the Roman occupation force out. The moon was almost full, this was the year of the Messiah according to Daniel. Jesus chose the route into the city, through the King's Gate. The people saw Him coming and met him at the Mount of Olives. They expected Him to come in and proclaim His rule. And that He did, but not in the way the people were looking for. Those who thought of Him as Lord looked for a Kingdom of this World to be established. Sunday was a day of triumph and fulfilled the anticipation of the Jews of a day for which they had waited four centuries. The Messiah had finally come, at the time predicted by scripture. They were certain that He would free them from the burdensome and cruel yoke of Roman rule. The Jews would finally be on top of the power pyramid. They would rule the world under Him! Yet, that was not to be. The day in the temple! Holy Cow! Here their savior was throwing people out of the temple, not throwing the Romans out of Jerusalem. They were sad to learn He came not to rule this world, for that time was not yet come; He came to give them the key to eternal salvation. He came to take them from this veil of tears to a state of perfect freedom. They wanted someone to throw the Romans out and all God sent them was the key to eternal life. What a disappointment!

### *Monday*

On Monday, Jesus preached in the Temple and further distanced Himself from the people's vision and demonstrated God's vision. He went in to the temple and through out the vendors selling "sacrificial" birds and animals at exorbitant cost, as well as the moneychangers, changing Roman money for Temple money dishonestly. Far from announcing Himself head of the temple, He announced they had made His Father's house a den of thieves. Rather than working within the Jewish establishment, He over turned it!

### *Tuesday*

Jesus and the Pharisees dispute in the Temple. He left for the garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives. There he delivers the "Mount of Olives Discourse". Judas agrees to betray him to the Jewish priests for 30 pieces of silver.

### *Wednesday*

The Sanhedrin was gathered together and decided to kill Jesus, even before Pesach if possible. In the meantime, Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper. Here he was anointed on his head by Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus, with very expensive ointment of spikenard. Some of the disciples, particularly Judas Iscariot, keeper of the purse, were indignant about this; the oil could have been sold to support the poor. "This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein." In this case, Judas recalls to mind many politicians. Jesus reminded them of the importance of first things first and the futility of giving, rather than helping, when He said in Matthew 26.11 "For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always." Judas went to the Sanhedrin and offered them his support in exchange for silver. From this moment on Judas was looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus. Judas spied on Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane where he came on his plan.

### *Maundy Thursday*

At the Passover Feast, Jesus and his disciples share the "Last Supper" and He washes their feet. Jesus blesses his bread and wine as his flesh and blood and shares it with his

disciples, the institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. As Paul tells us in his First Letter to the Corinthians, "...the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

At this same dinner, the disciples manage to quarrel over who should be the boss of who. Jesus tells them he came in the role of a servant, as He is their master, their role is likewise that of servants. In a move designed to reveal both His knowledge beforehand and our frailty, He tells Peter that Peter will deny Him thrice fore the cock croweth, or dawn breaks. Peter, a loyal follower, denies what will be shown as clear fact. Remember the further you let yourself get from the Lord, the weaker you are. Weakness grows with the cube of the distance. Stay close.

As the dinner goes on, Jesus tells them one of them will betray Him. Not able to grasp that any of them would literally betray Him, each asks, "Is it I?" Judas knows.

Jesus tells the disciples things are heating up, counsels them to arm themselves and goes out to pray in the garden of Gethsemane. Disciples come with Him, despite their best efforts, they fall asleep. Night has long fallen, the end of the day is near by our reckoning. The end is near for Jesus here on earth. Even nearer for Judas.



### ***Good Friday***

Good Friday was the day in which Jesus was tried by the Jews, tried by Pilate, condemned, crucified, died and was buried<sup>2</sup>. Except in hindsight, this was not a Good Friday at all.

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<sup>2</sup> The tomb was a new one which had been hewn for Joseph of Arimathea. Joseph, a native of Arimathea, was apparently a man of wealth, and probably a member of the Sanhedrin an "honourable counsellor, who waited (or "was searching") for the kingdom of God", according to John, he was secretly a disciple of Jesus. As soon as he heard the news of Jesus' death, he "went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body

In the early hours before sunup, Jesus is betrayed by the "Judas Kiss" and arrested. At sunrise, he is disowned by Peter thrice before the cock croweth. When brought before Caiaphas, the Jewish High Priest, and his Council, he is condemned. He says that he will rise from death after three days.

They hand him over to the Roman authority, Pontius Pilate, who sends him to Herod (Antipas, the son of Herod the Great). Then Pilate asks the crowd who he is to pardon: a murderer, or Jesus? The crowd chooses Barabas and Jesus is sentenced to death. Pilate's actions made famous the line, "I wash my hands of this." While he might have attempted to wash the guilt for the murder of the world's one truly innocent man on to the Jews, he remains the one who condemned him to death. Pilate was nothing if not a politician and bureaucrat. The condemnation was to him the simplest solution to the problem of a Jewish hierarchy's manufactured crowd's anger. What was the death of one Jew to him? Yet he was worried enough to attempt to wash his hands of the guilt.

Jesus is brought to Calvary, where on the "third hour" (9 am) he is crucified. He is mocked as he hangs between the Bad Thief and the Good Thief, whom he blesses. On the "sixth hour" (noon), darkness covers the land. Jesus cries out "My God, My God, hast Thou forsaken Me? "

After drinking wine, he commits his spirit to his Father and dies. Matthew reports an earthquake that destroys the Temple. Many understand now that Jesus was the Son of God. His body is taken down and anointed. He is buried in a new tomb donated by Joseph of Arimathea. This is the first day of death.

### ***Holy Saturday***

The Jewish Council remembers his vow to return and has the tomb guarded and sealed with a heavy stone. His followers stay in the "Easter Vigil". Second day of death.

### ***Easter Sunday***

On the third day of death, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary find the tomb empty, but for an angel who tells them Jesus is already resurrected and is on His way to Galilee. On their way to tell the others, Jesus appears to them. Death is conquered, the Promise delivered. Our lives from this day forward are eternal!

### ***Think about the Week that was!***

The reason Jesus came to Jerusalem at the Passover was to take the place of the yearly sacrifice by one perfect sacrifice, one time, for all time and for all mankind. His was the blood marking our door that the destroyer might pass over. The week started on a triumphant note and ended up trying to do between there were windows into the future, glimpses of the past, moments of despair, moments of terror, moments of confusion; but in the end joy and the ultimate triumph.

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of Jesus." Pilate, reassured by a centurion that the death had really taken place, allowed Joseph's request. Joseph immediately purchased fine linen and went to Golgotha to take the body down from the cross. There, assisted by Nicodemus, he took the body and wrapped it in the fine linen, sprinkling it with the myrrh and aloes that Nicodemus had brought. The body was then conveyed to the new tomb in rock in his garden nearby. There they laid it, in the presence of Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of Jesus, and other women, and rolled a great stone to the entrance, and departed. This was done speedily, "for the Sabbath was drawing on". Joseph of Arimathea appears in some early New Testament apocrypha.

Although there are no written records until the fifth century, tradition holds Joseph of Arimathea, who provided the tomb for the burial of Jesus Christ, brought Christianity and the Holy Grail to England in 37 AD and built a church in Glastonbury in Somerset.

### *Question that only you can ask*

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

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

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

### *Epistleers*

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reader</b>
20 April 2013	Dru Arnold – Easter Sunday
27 April 2013	Dru Arnold – First Sunday after Easter
4 May 2013	Dru Arnold – Second Sunday after Easter
11 May 2013	Dru Arnold – Third Sunday after Easter
18 May 2013	Dru Arnold – Fourth Sunday after Easter

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

20 April 2013 – Easter Sunday Sunrise Service – Holy Communion – Mite Box Collection – What will we have? Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

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

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

11 May 2013 – Third Sunday After Easter – Mothers Day – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

18 May 2013 – Fourth Sunday After Easter – 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**