



Anglican Orthodox Church

Worldwide Communion

First Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Report



Today was The First Sunday after Sunday, the first real Green Sunday and the beginning of the Endless Green Season.

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 –

“Aslan,” said Bree in a shaken voice, “I’m afraid I must be rather a fool.”

“Happy is the Horse who knows that while he is still young. Or the Human either.”

Jack Lewis

The Horse and His Boy

If we are idle, the devil and a corrupt heart will soon find us something to do.

Matthew Henry

17th and 18th century English pastor and author

Thus, there will always be an element of mystery in the relation of two wills in the universe, Divine and human. Christian people undoubtedly revolt against any view implying that the majority of the human race are everlastingly lost and only a few saved. Nor will any refuge be found by those who know and follow Scripture in the thought of purgatorial or purifying fires, which cannot be found in the Bible. [But] no careful and honest reader of Scripture can believe for an instant that all human beings will be saved, for, if the Bible teaches anything distinctly, it clearly shows that there are those who, through their own deliberate choice, remain outside the circle of the saved.

WH Griffith Thomas

19th and 20th century Anglican theologian and author

(The Principles of Theology: An Introduction To The Thirty-Nine Articles, p. 255)

Truth may be crushed to the earth but crushed or not, truth is still truth.

Jefferson Davis

President of the Confederate States of America, statesman and war hero

US intelligence isn't focused on external events or the activities of foreigners, it is focused on American citizens. They're much more concerned about what people like you and me are writing on this blog than they are with whatever the jihadists and Russians are doing. Given that the well-armed and highly trained ISIS [the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham] fighters were probably armed and trained by the US military, the

fact that US intelligence had no idea what they were doing can only indicate a complete lack of interest. After all, there are millions of Christians and gun owners and military veterans who need to be spied upon and federal intelligence resources are not unlimited. And it's not like US intelligence saw the fall of the Soviet Union coming either.

Vox Day
20th and 21st century American Libertarian and commentator

Power is not a means, it is an end. One does not establish a dictatorship in order to safeguard a revolution; one makes the revolution in order to establish the dictatorship.

George Orwell
20th century English author.

On some great and glorious day the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last, and the White House will be adorned by a downright moron.

HL Mencken
20th century American writer.

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 188-190, with the Collect first:

First Sunday after Trinity.
The Collect.

O GOD, the strength of all those who put their trust in thee; Mercifully accept our prayers; and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Today's Epistle came from the Fourth Chapter of St. John's First Epistle, beginning at the Seventh Verse. John pointed out that if we do not love our brethren here on earth we have seen and touched, how then can we claim to have love for God, whom no man hath seen? "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." God loved us so much He sent His only Son to die for our sins. That is true love. Not that we love Him, but that first He loved us! So, if God first loved us, ought we also not love each other? No one has seen God at any time. Yet, He loves us and we say we love Him. If we do love one another, then God is in us, the Holy Ghost, and we are in Him. Be bold, the world will end some time, for each of us it ends when we leave here. Fear not, trust in God and dread naught. God and His love will keep fear and the damage it does at bay. Love each other and act on that love.

This reading covers the same ground as Jesus' Summary of the Law, the second portion, "That he who loveth God love his brother also." God is love, not hate.

BELOVED, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only-begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

Today's Gospel came from the Sixteenth Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the Nineteenth Verse. It is a story Jesus told of Lazarus, not the Lazarus whom he raised from the dead, but a fictional character. This Lazarus was poor and very ill, he was laid at the gate of an extremely well fed rich man hoping he might be fed with the castoffs from the rich man's table. He was so ill, he could not move when dogs came to lick his sores. He died and went to heaven where he was well cared for and was whole. The rich man died, and for his self centered behavior here on earth, went to hell where he was tormented horribly. He looked up and saw Lazarus. He begged for just a touch of water, that he might be comforted. Abraham told the rich man that he would receive no comfort as he had partaken of all the comfort he would get while on earth when he thought only of himself. He also told him there was a gulf between heaven and hell through which no one could pass. Hearing that, the rich man asked that Lazarus be sent to his father's house that his brothers might avoid his fate. Abraham pointed out they had the words of Moses and the prophets, if they would not hear them, they would not listen to one who rose from the dead.

THERE was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: and there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; and in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is com-forted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: for I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Bishop Ogles' Sermon

Bishop Jerry is on travel to Kenya with Executive Secretary Betty Hoffman and Rev Jack Arnold to welcome the church their into the Anglican Orthodox Worldwide Communion. He thoughtfully left a sermon originally written for the First Sunday after Trinity 2012. It starts off with the collect, and like always, it will give you a lot to consider in your heart.



First Sunday after Trinity 10 June 2012 Anno Domini
St Andrews Anglican Orthodox Church
Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus

*First Sunday after Trinity.
The Collect.*

GOD, the strength of all those who put their trust in thee; Mercifully accept our prayers; and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THERE was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: and there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; and in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise

Lazarus evil things: but now he is com-forted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: for I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Before we look more closely at this great parable of Jesus, we must understand that Christ never uses a parable of things physical or spiritual whose principle is not consistent with the truth. This story of the rich man and Lazarus may be just as actual as it is figurative. God's principles never change and neither does His truth.

The parable addresses the issues of the hereafter in stark illustration of Paradise and Hell. There are those whose wealth dim their eyes to mercy and compassion, and encrypt their hearts in greed and malice. There are, on the other hand, those who would prefer to give whatever material possession they have if it will render a greater good in improving the life of that one standing nearby. Because their hearts are not centered on the material, their souls are fixed on goodness and mercy. Christ does not mean to teach that there is evil in riches, but in the way that we may covet such wealth. There is no honor in being desperately poor, either, but the circumstances of life may render any of us unable to provide for ourselves and impoverished by misfortune. When poor men, such as Lazarus, are made to beg by the gates of the wealthy, this condition is an illustration of the sin in the sin that lies covered in the purple garments of the wealthy who refuse to share their excess with those who are so deprived even of food to eat.

It should be noted that God does not always provide material reward to His righteous in this world. The tables are often turned so that the wealthy are the wicked, and the poor, the righteous. It does not necessarily need to be so, but often is. Even a very righteous man may be corrupted when he comes into great wealth. He may forget the estate from which he has come, and dwell only on the improvement of his finances.

We must not misapply Scriptural counsel regarding money: it is not money itself that is evil, but the love thereof. *For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows* (1 Tim 6:10) If God rewards you with a million dollars in your account, the mere possession of so much money does not make you a bad person. The manner in which you use the money for good is a measure of your virtue.

The deference which Christ shows to the poor man in giving him a Godly name, Lazarus, or Eleazar, is notable. The name means, God is MY Help. We have churches in the AOC in parts of the world in which every member depends upon God alone for the next morsel of food they consume. This Holy name imputes a righteous character to the poor man.

But what of the rich man? He is given no name at all. Why do you suppose this is so? Because if our names are not written in the Book of Life, then they are not written at all. In fact, there are no names in Hell. Why would you need a name there?

19 *There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day* This man was filled with himself and cared not a whit for those around him. He had much more than he needed, yet was unwilling to share a morsel from his well-stocked pantry to a poor man diseased and dying. The love of wealth petrifies the heart and closes its gates of mercy. Christ only refers to this man as a "rich man." He has no redeeming qualities that recommend him to God.

20 *And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores* You may wonder why Lazarus is a beggar? Could it be a result of his complete helplessness due to disease. He could not help himself – he had to be helped. Someone must help those around us who are unable, due to tragic circumstances, to help themselves. Before the advent of utopian and socialistic philosophy, the Church and Community were the source of help – and still should be.

21 *And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.* He desired no great thing – only to be fed the crumbs from the rich man's table. These the rich man did not need, but it is doubtful that the rich man cared enough to give them to Lazarus. Even though men of means showered no mercy on their own kind, at least the dogs lived up to their reputation of loyalty. The dogs comforted Lazarus – not with food which they had not – but with compassion and love. Are we better than dogs?

22 *And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried* How casually does the LORD make reference to that grave which awaits every beloved reader of this devotion. It shall come to pass that each of us shall die. Then what?

You will observe a great difference in the disposition of Lazarus after death, and that of the rich man after death. Christ says of the beggar (he) *was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom* Truly the destination of all righteous souls. Abraham is father, not only to the Hebrews, but all who believe in the Promised Seed – Jesus Christ! What a royal sendoff did Lazarus receive. Though a poor, sick beggar, he was honored with the dignity of being carried by the angels to Abraham's Bosom. Angels are important heavenly dignitaries, but not so dignified as to ignore any soul that dies in Christ.

How does the honor paid Lazarus differ from the disposition of the Rich Man's body? *The rich man also died, and was buried.* He was placed, not in the Bosom of Abraham, but in the depth of the earth – his eternal home, or ultimately, Hell. Instead of the angels carrying him to Abraham's Bosom, the rich man lies in the cursed soil of the world. Quite well do the final words of a poem by Sir Walter Scott summarize the matter:

"For him no minstrel raptures swell; High though his titles, proud his name, Boundless his wealth as wish can claim Despite those titles, power, and pelf, The wretch, concentred all in self, Living, shall forfeit fair renown, And, doubly dying, shall go down To the vile dust from whence he sprung, Unwept, unhonored, and unsung."

But Scott's words do not fully reveal the extent of the tragedy of such a lifestyle – the fires of Hell await such a one the very moment his eyes are blinded by death.

23 *And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and*

Lazarus in his bosom. Christ does not leave the reality of hell open for question, but states the fact outright. There are fires in Hell, and torments as well. There are no medical stations there to relieve the pain for, in Hell, the character of its citizens rule – NO MERCY! The rich man can see Lazarus "afar off" in the bosom of Abraham. Heaven is a far off place from Hell. But the wicked can see the delight of those in Heaven.

24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame The pride of wealth no longer dominates the rich man's thinking. He takes no longer pride in his fine raiment for that was burned away the moment he was cast into Hell. The rich man begs for that which he had none of in life – MERCY! Lazarus is now rich, and the rich man a beggar. He begs for mercy to be delivered by the very finger of him to whom he granted no mercy. Hell is a hot dry place. The drought never ends there. It is interesting to note that there is no evidence that Lazarus is aware of the rich man's condition in Hell. Such knowledge might dampen his joy in Heaven for he obviously was a man of compassion as opposed to the rich man. Hell is a place of torment. God sends no one to Hell – we send ourselves.

25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. We sometimes find men in conditions and circumstances from which we cannot extricate them, but we still should have what kindness we can have and show respectful regard. Observe with what sympathy Abraham addresses the rich man in Hell: He calls him "son!" It is possible that this man could have been a true son of Abraham as was Lazarus had he followed in that faith of Abraham in Christ. But he was more likely a son by hereditary descent and not spiritual. The temporary luxuries of riches born out of greed will avail nothing in Heaven. The pleasure is so temporary, and eternity so very long – endless in fact.

26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. We must recognize that the distance is so great between Heaven and Hell that none can pass to and from. No one has descended to Hell and returned to tell of it, and the same is true of Heaven regardless the cheap little books of commercial fodder marketed today. If you believe that you can visit Hell, you probably will do so for longer than you wish.

27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: 28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Even the wicked in Hell are aware of the lost condition of their loved ones. Does this give cause for pause? Those in Hell would do anything to save their loved ones (for the damned also love their own) from coming to such a place of hot torment.

29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. Have we, too, heard the voice of Moses from the beginning in Genesis? Have we heard and heeded the writings of the prophets and the Gospel and Epistles that tell of Christ? If so, it is enough! We need no astounding signs to prove our faith else it is not faith.

An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given

to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. (Matt 12:39-40) Is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior enough for you, or do you seek cleverly designed signs of men?

30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. Really? Christ rose from the dead and the obstinate, faithless Jewish rulers still hated Him. Faith is based in hope and love, not sure evidence.

31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead. If our faith is not founded on God's Word, no other considerations are important. We believe because God's Love is reflected to our hearts in the hope and reality revealed by Scripture. If our hearts are made of lead, the iron Magnet will not attract it. There must be a kinship (even if distant) in the heart that responds to the Call of God.

Do you have that kinship?

*Sermon – Reverend Hap Arnold - Time and Action
Church of the Faithful Centurion - Descanso, California*

Today's sermon brought the Collect, Epistle and Gospel together and is partly contained in the forewords above. How little we need other guidance, if we but listen to what God tells us.



Consider these words from the Collect:

... the strength of all those who put their trust in thee; ... through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed...

This is a little longer Collect than usual, but in it we acknowledge that God is the source of our strength, as we are weak and cannot do any true good without His Help; thus we ask His help or grace to do His Will in both in our thoughts and actions.

And, what is the first action we are to take? To love one another. Saint John pointed out if we do not love our fellow creatures here on earth whom we have seen and touched, how then can we claim to have love for God, whom not one of us have seen? We then cannot love God if we cannot love our fellow humans, no matter how far they have strayed from His path, we are still to love them and offer them help and help others. Jesus came to serve, as the ultimate Servant, so must we be also.

“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”

God loved us so much He sent His only Son to die for our sins. That is true love. Not that we love Him, but that first He loved us! So, if God first loved us, ought we also not love each other? No one has seen God at any time. Yet, He loves us and we say we love Him. If we do love one another, then God is in us, the Holy Ghost, and we are in Him. Be bold, the world will end some time, for each of us it ends when we leave here.

Fear not, trust in God and dread naught. God and His love will keep fear and the damage it does at bay. Love each other and act on that love.

To love one another and ACT on that love. To consider the ways we might help others and then ACTually help them. It is not a question of giving, but helping. The rich man could have helped Lazarus, but it never entered his head. The rich man, like many of us sadly, only thought of himself. Jesus illustrates perfectly in this parable what happens when we only think of ourselves and do not help others or think of others even. The rich man could have thought of poor Lazarus and given him a place to stay and food to eat and paid for it, like the Good Samaritan. Instead, he just let him die, figuring that that was the end of him. It turns out that he was wrong and soon the tables would be reversed. Lazarus was a rather disgusting feature of his world and when he died, the rich man was pleased not to have to pass by him. Yet, it never entered into his head to help.

How is that possible?

Simple, his eye was not on the donut, but on the hole. The rich man cared about all the things that don't count and never considered those that do. Which is as said earlier, is a problem at that all of us face at one time or another due to our very nature of being sinful beings.

Indeed, between heaven and hell there is a great gulf fixed. But, you must understand, the gulf is not of God's making but ours. It is us who keeps us from the heaven He offers freely, yet at a great price.

Put your trust in God and dread naught. Love those around you and ACT on that love. It does not matter if they are the same religion as you, but you still must love and act towards them all the same. That does not mean baring your throat to the Koran following Muslims; but it does mean treating them with kindness and charity until you must act to defend you and your way of life from them. They deserve pity, for as they follow Allah, that is the Devil, as Christ said "They know not what they do." Think how you can help, not how you can "enjoy" life. Helping does not mean simply giving money to those who don't have it, no strings attached, although it might at times. It never means supporting those who do not feel like supporting themselves. For dependency breeds slothfulness and contempt. Dependency destroys the soul. What it does mean is facilitating a way for those who do not have to earn what they need; to bring them the means of acquiring those things which they need. Those things are spiritual as well as physical. A hand up; not a hand out. You will find out the more you help, the more you enjoy real life. Whether it is helping somebody at the office, around the neighborhood or a friend, I get immense pleasure in the result of helping that person, more than if I had just concentrated on myself.

This is hard to do. We want to concentrate on what makes us feel good about ourselves right here and right now. We have to be coerced into staying on the narrow path upward and inward. But that is where our home is.

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

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

It is by our actions we are known.

Be of God - Live of God - Act of God

Bishop 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:



Rich on the Outside, Poor on the Inside

Luke 16:19-21

June 22, 2014

There are many ways to describe the rich man in Luke 16:19. We might say he was well fed on the outside and starving on the inside. We might say he was full on the outside and empty on the inside. I think the most accurate would be to say he was wealthy on the outside, but destitute on the inside. The Bible calls him rich. It means he lived in extravagant luxury. Many of you have heard of the famous horse farms of Loudoun County. These are owned by the very rich. Their drive ways look like country roads, long, winding, paved, lined with oaks and stone walls. Their barns are like castles. Their houses are mansions, staffed with armies of servants. This is the kind of wealth the man in Luke 16 enjoyed. It is unimaginable wealth. That's the picture the Bible gives of him.

The Bible also says he "fared sumptuously every day." The Greek word used here is the word from which we get our English word "lamp." It has a primary meaning of luxurious. If you and I were ever placed in a situation of having no light at night, we would understand what a luxurious thing a lamp is. But the word carries another meaning, which is bright, shining splendor, glowing like the sun. It means this rich man's fare shone like the sun, glorious and bright and without equal.

We meet others like him in the Bible. Maybe not quite as wealthy, but certainly qualified to be called rich. Zacchaeus is one of them. Then there is the man often called the rich young ruler. Each of these men was wealthy. Each had everything money can buy. But, of course, money can't buy everything. And as we look at this rich man, we see a terrible, ravenous poverty in the deep, deep, depths of his soul. His body fared sumptuously every day, but his soul was starving to death.

The man was a Jew. He used the common Jewish reference to Abraham as "Father Abraham." He probably went to the synagogue every Sabbath. He probably kept the ceremonial laws, the feasts and fasts and sacrifices. He probably gave generously to the synagogue and Temple, and the politicians, and charities, for he would have wanted to be known as pious and good, and he would have wanted to keep people, "on his side." But he was missing something. He was missing God.

I can think of another man who was in a similar situation. Though not wealthy, C. S. Lewis was comfortably situated as an Oxford Don. His salary was very good. He lived comfortably in the country near his work. He was respected. And he loved his books. He lived for his books. He was somewhat of an expert in the literature of Nordic mythology, and his imagination was captured by it. I remember being captured by philosophy in college. It was almost a consuming passion. I lived it. Kierkegaard, Sartre, and Kant were friends and I conversed with them through their works. Together we discussed the great questions of life. What is true? What is truth? Is knowledge possible? Can I know what is real? Is anything real? If you attended our

Tim Keller videos you may remember him saying we can't prove we're not a butterfly dreaming we're a college student. Well, part of the intrigue of philosophy is the question, am I a butterfly dreaming I'm a college student? Can I know I'm not a butterfly dreaming I'm a college student? That may seem like a foolish question, but it really goes to the foundation of human existence. It asks the question, am I real? And philosophers through the ages have wrestled with this question. Because, if I'm not real, my life doesn't matter, and if you are not real, then you don't matter. And if you are not real then I can do whatever I want with you and to you. So this is part of the two foundational questions of human existence. The first one is, who an I, and why am I here? The second is, who is God, and what does He want from me?

C.S. Lewis lived in his books, and he thought he was happy but one day he noticed the thrill was wearing off. Soon it was gone entirely. It was then that he noticed that his life was really not full and satisfying. It was empty and sad. The thrill had not just gone out of his literature; it had gone out of his life. In his book, *Surprised by Joy* he wrote of his desperate quest to get it back. But the harder he tried to find it again, the further it seemed to go from him. It seemed life had nothing for him but empty, dead, sadness. He wrote a wonderful comment on living for thrills and the folly of striving for thrills in his book *Surprised by Joy*. He brought it all to a profound conclusion in the chapter called "Check," saying, "I sometimes wonder if all pleasure is not a substitute for joy." He found himself very much like the man in the Scriptures, very comfortable on the outside, but desolate, empty, and starving on the inside.

I recently spoke to the Reverend Ken Johnson about this morning's reading from Luke 16, and he brought out a significant point. He said he is amazed at how much effort people put into their physical/worldly comforts, and how little they put into their spiritual growth and well being. We put much effort into making our houses comfortable and attractive. For many, our homes are our largest financial investment, and we spend much money and effort making them comfortable and attractive places to live. We also pay great attention to our physical health. We join health clubs and gyms. We try to eat healthy and well balanced meals, and we get proper rest. We also pay much attention to our mental health. We take vacations. We listen to music. We watch movies. We visit friends. We do this to "unwind." We do this for our emotional/mental well being. And these things are, or at least, can be good things. I believe a comfortable, attractive home is a gift from God to be enjoyed and treasured and maintained. Certainly we should pay much attention to our physical health. "Thou shalt not kill" refers as much to yourself as it does to others, and the positive side of this commandment is to do all that is reasonable and necessary to protect your physical health. The same is true of our emotional/mental health. We cannot ignore this aspect of life without displeasing God.

But what do we do about our spiritual life? Do we sometimes let it fade into the background of life as we pursue our more physical/worldly aspects and needs? Most of us would have to answer that question with a rather humble, "yes." The story of the rich man and Lazarus reminds us that we can be rich on the outside but poor on the inside. We can live in shinning luxury and fare sumptuously everyday on the outside, yet live in poverty and hunger of the soul. Let that not be so of us.

--

+Dennis Campbell

Bishop, Anglican Orthodox Church Diocese of Virginia
Rector, Holy Trinity Anglican Orthodox Church

Rev Ken Howes
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Chicago, Illinois



The Reverend Ken Howe is a Lutheran minister who is a member of the AOC Forum and a fine man. His denomination, the Lutherans, gets its name from Martin Luther one of the early reformers whose efforts were dedicated to the return of the Church to its true foundation, Scripture, and to return to His place of primacy the Church's one true leader, Jesus Christ our Lord. Generally speaking Lutherans and Anglicans have much in common.

Rev Ken discussed the topic of this sermon with Bishop Jerry before he left for Kenya and Bishop Jerry asked that Rev Ken send the sermon in to place in the Sunday Report.

St. Paul, writing to the Romans, wanted to make sure that the Romans knew what Christianity was about. Even now, you hear people saying that Christianity is about a set of rules—follow these rules, you go to heaven and you're saved; don't follow them, you go to hell and you're lost. Well-meaning parents and Sunday-school teachers fall into that trap constantly, as they try to teach their children to be good little girls and boys.

There is a truth that underlies that teaching. God has given us a Law. That Law is most familiar as it appears in the Ten Commandments. Every one of those commandments was given by God. It is nothing more than what we are supposed to do, to follow these commandments, every one of them. Failure to do so is sin, and we are warned that the wages of sin are death and hell. Every bit of that is true.

What makes that scarier is that every one of us has violated at least one of those commandments. We examine ourselves in the light of those commandments, and we see again and again that we have broken them. Indeed, anyone who claims that he has not broken them is guilty of the greatest sin of all, pride. But St. Paul tells us that such pride is misplaced. "For there is no difference; all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." So, without some intervention, we are all lost, because we are all sinners.

That is the bad news. We are none of us good little girls and boys going to heaven by how good we have been.

But there is good news, and St. Paul gives us that good news. That is that we are righteous before God by His grace, thanks to the redemption Jesus made for us. Now, what's redemption? We use that word in the Church a great deal, but not everyone really understands what it is.

In the old Roman law, if someone owed a debt and couldn't pay it, the person to whom he owed money could have an officer come, arrest the debtor, and put him in prison, even have him tortured, to find out if there was more property the debtor had that could be sold or taken to pay off the debt. The idea was that if the debtor was hiding property, he could be made to disclose where he had it, and if he wasn't, his family and friends would want to pay the debt for him.

Now, if they paid the debt for him in full, there was a rule that the creditor had to release the debtor. The one who paid off the debt, the Romans said, had bought him back, and this was called “redemptio” – buying back. We still have a trace of that now. If you owe a debt and don't pay it, your creditor can't throw you into prison any more, but he can take your house or your car to sell it and apply the proceeds of the sale to the debt. But if someone pays off the debt, you or someone else, before the house or car has been sold, then the creditor has to release the property he's taken. You have redeemed your house or your car. You've bought it back.

That's what Jesus did. We owed God our obedience and our praise. But we disobeyed His Law and we refused to give Him honor as we ought. We cannot make that good again, because any good thing we could do would just be to do what we were supposed to do anyhow. All we'd be doing would be not falling further behind—and we can't even do that. The penalty for our failure would be death and hell. Who will pay that debt for us, that we cannot pay ourselves? The answer is that Jesus has done it. What's more, He did it completely out of His goodness and grace, not in return for anything we did.

How did He pay the debt for us? St. Paul tells us here that it was through a propitiation in His blood. But what's a propitiation? When you propitiate someone, you are doing something that makes him favorably disposed to you. We know when Jesus gave His blood. He gave it in His suffering and in His death on the Cross. He did it as a payment of our debt, a redemption of us from the consequences of our sin.

His Law had to be obeyed. God is a just God, and He will not simply excuse wickedness. So Jesus obeyed the Law for us. His righteousness, and His justice are upheld both in that the Law has been obeyed and that its penalties have been paid. But He had not broken the Law, not in the slightest bit, not ever. That payment was not for anything He had done. It was payment for what we had and have done.

It was payment in full! Redemption doesn't happen on a part payment. If there were something left that we still had to pay, we would not be redeemed—and as I just said, we can't do it ourselves, not in full, not in part. Only Jesus could do it. If he had left something undone, we would still be lost, because we still could not catch up the rest of what we owed. That payment was for all our sin, for what we have done that we should not have done, for all that we have not done that we should have done.

So who gets the benefit of this? St. Paul tells us that, too. God is just, and he declares those who believe in Jesus to be just, to be righteous, to be saved. Does that mean everyone who knows that Jesus lived and died, even that Jesus rose again, is now just, righteous and saved? No. The devil knows that, too. How about that He is the Son of God? No. The devil knows that, too. It is the confidence that not only is He the Son of God, not only did He do everything He did, but that He did it for you, and that He has paid the whole debt, everything you owed.

So you are saved, because you believe. But you cannot claim that you did it—any of it—yourself. He did it for you, and any show of how good you are is completely misplaced. If, when you were a kid, your mother did your homework for you, and it was marked an “A” by the teacher, can you be proud of what a good student you are? Of course not. You know who did the homework.

But God is fine with it that He has done the homework. You're getting the A. Just don't forget who earned that A for you. It wasn't you, and you have nothing to brag about. It

is through our faith in Him, and by His grace, and not by anything we have done, that we are saved.

You remember all the stories about Pharisees who made such a big deal about how good they were. Well, there was a time when there were a great many in the Church who thought that they, by being so good, had earned their way to heaven, and some in the Church were giving the impression that it worked that way. If you read their greatest teachers—a good deal of this sermon is drawn from the writing of one of the great Catholic teachers¹—you can see that it doesn't; but the average priest hadn't read those teachers.

Martin Luther, and others following him, were insistent that the Church must be clear about this, that we do not earn our salvation, that we are sinners entirely dependent on God's grace, saved only thanks to Jesus' redemption of us. The Church at the time was very corrupt. It was making a big business of what can only be called selling grace: "Give us this, do that for us, and we, as the stewards of God's grace, will see to it that you are saved." So it put great pressure on the Emperor to suppress the Reformation that Luther was leading. The Emperor, in 1529, issued an order that everywhere in Germany and the rest of his empire, only the Catholic Church was permitted. But several princes and the mayors of several cities protested against that order. It's from that protest that we get the word "Protestant".

So the Emperor ordered that the Lutherans present to him a statement of what they were teaching, at an assembly to be held the next year in the city of Augsburg. The princes went back to Luther and asked him to give them a statement of the Reformation teachings. He gave this assignment to his main associate, Philip Melancthon, who put together 28 articles setting forth what Lutherans teach. Some of those articles were taken from things Luther had written before; some were Melancthon's own writing. On June 25, 1530, Philip Melancthon, together with the Chancellor of Saxony, presented those 28 articles of faith to the Emperor.

Those articles are called the Augsburg Confession. They are THE statement of what it means to be Lutheran. When you say you're a Lutheran, you're really saying you believe what's in the Augsburg Confession. The text for this sermon today is the source of the central article of the Augsburg Confession:

Article IV: Of Justification.

1] Also they teach that men cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works, but are freely justified for 2] Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor, and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake, who, by His death, has made satisfaction for our sins. 3] This faith God imputes for righteousness in His sight. Rom. 3 and 4.

Yes, that's the heart of what it is to be a Lutheran; really, it's at the heart of what it is to be a Christian. But there's one more important thing in this text that has to be mentioned, and it's particularly important for us Lutherans because members of other churches constantly accuse us of teaching that it doesn't matter what you do so long as

¹ Anselm of Canterbury. He had to be the most Protestant Catholic who ever lived in some important ways: he affirmed monergism, predestination, and the substitutionary atonement. (His Marian theology is another matter.)

you believe. Catholics, at least those who don't actually know our teachings, accuse us of that; even other Protestants often accuse us of that.

Well, it isn't true. It's as St. Paul says, finishing this chapter of his letter. "Then do we repeal the Law? No. We are standing by the Law." Just because we are no longer condemned for our failure to keep the Law does not mean that we can disregard God's will. That will is expressed in the Law. The Law acts as a curb to stop evil conduct. It acts as a mirror, to show you how far short of godliness you are. It is a guide, to show us how we ought to live our lives, what conduct pleases or displeases God

If your faith is in God, if your confidence in Him, you will want your life to be pleasing to Him. You will want that what you pray every day comes true—that His kingdom come, His will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. You will be in that kingdom, where He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and reigns forever and ever. Amen. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 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.



First Sunday after Trinity

As Christians, we understand that God expects us to be obedient to his will and that such will entail our possessing a worldview which upholds his standards. Nevertheless, for the unregenerate, such is not the case as their lives are predicated on a secular, or profane morality that is based entirely on human wisdom and understanding. We might refer to those who hold such views as "secular moralists", or simply, "moralists". Gail Riplinger once observed that, "... the words moral and immoral... are an affront to God. They imply that man himself can determine what is right and wrong. Eve became the first moralist, as she chose to decide what is good and what is evil. Rebels, like Eve and Lucifer seek 'the good'.² Moralists always claim to adhere to 'what is right'... because the heathen perennially chose their mores over the laws of God." (*New Age Bible Versions*, p. 153) Profane morality is a most deceitful and dangerous enemy not simply because it is a construct of human wisdom, but on account of its sinister, supernatural nature.

In our lesson from Genesis, we read where Eve was beguiled by the serpent to disobey the commandment of God by eating of the forbidden fruit. In so doing, Eve chose to act against the expressed will of the Creator. As the scriptures so state, And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her: and he did eat (3:6).

Consider her first motivation: ... the woman saw that the tree was good for food. The appeal to our human sense of smell and taste is often the first invitation to bring us to partake of a meal. I love the smell of good food cooking, and when someone is grilling nearby it will stimulate my desire for the same. There is nothing unbiblical about that

² For those of us who look to scripture for guidance, consider *good* is often rendered *fair* or *fairness*. You will note the word *fairness* is not in the Bible, the word *fair* is; however its use is as meaning beautiful, as in a fair young maiden or fair weather. There is a reason for this, consider it.

because God gave us a sense of smell to go along with our appetite for tasty foods. Still, sinful behaviors can be masked behind a favorable sense. With the prohibition of God set aside, Eve then relied solely upon her senses to affirm her actions and that spelled trouble for both herself and her husband, as well as for us.

Eve's second motivation was, ...that it was pleasant to the eyes. How things look to us is a sense that is also not in and of itself evil. Even so, evil things may have a pleasant appearance that will conceal their true nature. If we are relying upon our own senses, and not upon godly discernment, we will be tricked by the devil every time. The old saying of "all that glitters is not gold" is apropos. The moralist will see only those things that are visible or apparent, and will look no further. Evil is often invisible, or hidden, much as a fowler's trap. The bird sees only the bait, but not the snare which, when activated, catches the hapless creature who usually ends up in a cooking pot.

Eve's third motivation rested on the smooth and persuasive message of the serpent: Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil (v.4b). Ergo, because it was a ...tree to be desired to make one wise she then completed the work of sin for as the Bible says, ...she took the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her: and he did eat. The apostle James admonished: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death (St. James 1:14-15).

How often have we succumbed to the wishes of others who were themselves mired in sinful activities, and who desired us to join them in their rebellion against the revealed will of God? The devil styles everything he wants us to do in ways which have the outward appearance of being rational, self-gratifying, worldly, in vogue, or titillating. Would you really do an evil deed if he told you the truth about what would happen to you: that God's judgment would come upon you; that you might even suffer ill effects in your body; in your relationships with others; etc.?

That's where the moralist comes in to do his master's bidding. As St. Paul noted in his second epistle to the Corinthians, Satan was an angel of light, and he still possesses the power to assume that form again as well as to transform his disciples into faux Christians for his malignant purposes (11:13-15). Our Lord Jesus Christ said, Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits... (St. Matthew 7:15-16a). And, For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect (St. Matthew 24:24-26).

The moralist may offer a set of ethical values which might bear some resemblance to God's laws, but are, in fact, merely vehicles to cloud the issue at hand rather than affirm God's immutable standards for living. Consider the words of the playwright George Bernard Shaw in his Maxims For Revolutionaries, "Do not do unto others as you would have them do unto you, their tastes may not be the same. The golden rule is that there are no golden rules."

Another subset of secular morality is paganism which offers a, "Do what thou wilt, but harm no one"³ approach for human conduct. How nice. But if you are doing what you want apart from God's word, then evil is present and will endeavour to use your actions to the detriment of not only yourself, but anyone else who might be in the way. The drunk driver may kill himself in attempting to drive home, but he also possesses

³ They don't seem to notice that their behavior harms themselves, thus violating the *harm no one* precept!

the capacity to injure or kill others on his route. The serial adulterer may believe that his or her conduct is not hurtful— no blood, no mayhem, “no autopsy, no foul,” but what he or she does not realize is that their behavior is filled with the potential for harm to others, as well as themselves. Thus the “do what thou wilt” most of the time rules out, “but harm no one.”

As Christians, we have to exercise proper discernment in all that we do or say. The Bible teaches us that the carnal nature of every human being suffers under the curse of original sin. That is what Eve and her husband brought upon us, and the punishment for sin— any sin— is death. Her desire to be wise and to be as a god led her away from godly obedience to become an instrument of corruption on behalf of Satan himself. That last point is often ridiculed in the profane media, as well as in the apostate Christianity, because as their slate of bible authorities explain, “The devil is nowhere mentioned in Genesis.” These so-called bible experts are loathe to admit that in two places within the Book of Revelation (Revelation 12:9; and 20:2), we are informed that the serpent of Genesis is Satan himself. God has cut away his disguise, but you have to regard his word as truth before it will be acceptable to you.

It should come as no surprise that moralists are in denial about the existence of a personal evil. For if they ever admit that such a being does exist— one who possesses powers beyond our comprehension, and who controls legion upon legion of evil accomplices that are ever ready to deceive and harm us— then that would undermine their self-serving morality.

If you accept God’s word written, then you know that there are God’s standards for living, as well as those which the devil and his minions have concocted. And by extension, you understand that there are only two folds in this world: God’s fold, and the Devil’s. You cannot abide in both (I Corinthians 10:20- 22). You must make a choice between them, and that choice will have eternal consequences.

Moralists have chosen those principles and doctrines that fit their particular lifestyle choices. Many of them have rejected the Christian message because it conflicts with their errant ways and views. As we read in our lesson from Genesis, Satan wants our senses to be pleased by our sin. He wants the poison to taste sweet. He wants our death to God to be preferable to a life dedicated to him. He wants our choices to trump God’s choices. And he would have us all become like Eve— moralists in our own right. And what did Eve and Adam extend to each of us? A curse.

So can we undo what our first parents have done unto us? Plainly stated, we have not the capacity within ourselves to remedy our situation. The moralist says you must do this, or that, or the other to live rightly. Sadly, there are Christians who harbor a works-based salvation, and they too have a list of things one must do to obtain God’s favor. The Bible says that, Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners (I St. Timothy 1:15). For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (St. John 3:16). Jesus saith... I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (St. John 14:6). The Philippian jailer asked of the apostles Paul and Silas, ...Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house (Acts 16:30, 31). The apostles did not say, “You can save yourself by your own merits,” or “You can please God by this work or that and he will give you that saving grace.” Nothing could be further from the truth.

We who are born-again of the Holy Ghost have accepted what God has done for us through the atoning work of our Saviour. We have accepted his free gift to us and we

follow his commandments. In order to know God, one must read his word and prayerfully petition him daily. God wants us to know him and he wants us to be saved from his coming wrath. When you come to know God as your heavenly Father, you will learn that he has your best interests at heart. You will also realize that he loved you so much that he sent his only begotten Son to die in your place, to take your punishment for every sin you have committed as well as that original sin with which we were all born. He has done it all so that all you have to do is, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.

If you have not already done so, I urge you to begin your relationship with God today. Ask him to forgive you of your sins and trespasses in the name of his only begotten Son. And ask him to fill you with his most holy Spirit as well as to daily assist you in living by his standards as expressed in Scripture. You can rest assured that he will hear you, and if you are sincere, he will accept you into the beloved as one of his saints. Do not wait. Come to him today.

Let us pray,

ALMIGHTY God, keep us from all false doctrine, heresy and schism, as well as from all pagan moralizing and deception in religion; for this we ask in the name of thy only begotten Son, even Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

After Church Hospitality

We need snack pictures! Come on, help us out!

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

Why? Prayer is an extremely important activity.

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

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

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

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

What is the commitment from the prayer team?

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

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

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

What should I ask for?

Depends on what you want. Some people merely want God to be asked to heal their ills and be mentioned by their first name, others want a specific outcome and / or have

more of their personal information known to the team. Ask for what you want. It is your desire and need for prayer the team is attempting to meet. For typical examples, see the list below.

Updating the Team

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

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

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

Travel

Bishop Jerry Ogles, Executive Secretary Betty Hoffman and Rev Jack Arnold are on travel to Kenya this Saturday to welcome the church there into the Anglican Orthodox Church Worldwide Communion. Please pray for a successful and safe trip for them.

Roy and Janet Morales-Kuhn and their daughter Liz are on travel this week and next.

Birthday

Terri Jennings celebrated her 58th Birthday on 26 April 2014.

Anniversary

Rev Rick and Virginia Reid celebrated their 35th Anniversary on 7 April 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

Sasha left for home Friday, 20 June 2014. A very very special young lady with a husband and two children who had cancer for which all treatment had been tried unsuccessfully. Give thanks for Sasha's time here on earth and please pray for comfort, strength and understanding for her husband and their family. Please pray the family can let God carry their worry, fear and sorrow so that they can do their best.

Dennis left to be with our Lord and Savior on 30 May 2014, after a relatively brief struggle with cancer. Please give thanks for His time here on earth and pray for comfort, strength and understanding for Linda his wife and their family. Please pray the family can let God carry their worry, fear and sorrow so that they can do their best.

Sherry Tester, mother in law of Stephen Cord (Rev Jack's mentor during his almost four

years at WGU) passed away after a heart attack on 16 May 2014. Please give thanks for her time here on earth and pray for comfort, strength and understanding for Charles, her husband of 56 years, as well as her daughter Jennifer, Stephen and their family. Please pray the family can let God carry their worry, fear and sorrow so that they can do their best.

Danahurt passed away unexpectedly on or about 16 May 2014. Please pray for his Family and Friends as they adjust to this unexpected situation.

George Knoop, age 78, a Missionary Aviation Fellowship member was murdered by a Haitian with a knife on 13 May 2014 while trying to help the people of Haiti. Give thanks for his time here on earth and pray for comfort for his family who remain behind. Neither freedom nor faith are free, please remember that before you turn from either.

Brian Smith left for home on 21 April 2014, after a long battle with lung cancer; it cannot be said the cancer won, he is with the Lord in victory. He was able to do what he wanted and needed to do until two days before his death, for that we are all grateful. His only concern about leaving was for his wonderful wife Melany who of necessity remains behind. Please give thanks for his safe passage and pray that Mel will keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry. As a side note, today is Brian's birthday and we remember him the more.

Three hundred Korean high school students perished in the sinking of Korean passenger vessel, SEWOL, on 16 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind, soul and heart for the families of those who perished. Please give thanks for the bravery and compassion of PARK Ji Young, aged 22 years, who remained on board to help rescue as many souls as possible. She even gave a student her own life vest. Her body was later found floating in the frigid waters of the sea. Ask God to help the families deal with their grief.

Nearing the end of their time here on earth

Jere Wolf (Melanie Zimmer's dad) is nearing the end of his time here in the Shadowlands; Congestive Heart Failure and a blocked aortic valve are causing all kinds of problems and resulting in kidney shutdown. Treatment has failed. Jere has decided to go home and be with his family for his last bit here on earth. Please pray for Jere and his family, in particular his wife Doreen and daughters Cindy and Molly (or Melanie) to keep their faith strong in the Lord as he prepares for the trip home.

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 but seems do be doing well in the Nursing Home today. Pray he will eat and that his family will be together in one accord as they take care of him

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

Lily is the caregiver of her elderly husband *Harold*; she fell down the stairs and has a break that will take six weeks before she can be on her feet again. Please pray for rapid healing for Lily and for a plan to form that will make things tolerable for both of them.

Paul has dementia but seems to be doing well in the Nursing Home today. Pray he will eat and that his family will be together in one accord as they take care of him

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.

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

Dennis, nephew in law of Rev Rick Reid, had a seizure at work on 28 April 2014, and was hospitalized at the Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, TN; he went home; he is back in Emory Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia after complaining of what he thought were migraine headaches. An evaluation found a mass of veins enlarged on right side of brain called arteriovenous malformation (AVM). This is an abnormal connection between arteries and veins. An AVM is usually dates to birth. It can develop anywhere in the body but occurs most often in the brain or spine. A brain AVM, which appears as a tangle of abnormal arteries and veins, can occur in any part of your brain. Blood vessels an rupture, causing bleeding in the brain. It is possible for a brain AVM to be treated successfully. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating *Dennis* and for them to pay attention and do their best. Pray also for trust in the Lord for *Dennis* and his family that they might find peace and strength in Him.

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.

Leon McKay suffered a stroke a few weeks back that has left him unable to speak and while undergoing evaluation the doctors also found he has a very aggressive

cancer. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Leon's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Leon and his 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.

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.

Jane has fourth stage cancer and is not doing well. Please pray for Jane and her family 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 was 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 Gregr family's lives. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also Melody and her family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. Pray for a special miracle for her and her family.

Mario has early-diagnosed prostate cancer and had surgery. Pray for complete remission and that Mario and his 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.

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

Paul has been in and out of the hospital for several weeks. Pray that the Doctors will find out what is wrong with him and he will be healed.

Dennis had a stroke on 30 May 2014. Pray for his wife and family during this time of recovery Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Dennis and his family, most particularly his wife; as well as for God's guidance for the neurologists and other medical people treating him they might find the best course of treatment and allow Dennis to heal completely.

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.

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.

Nathan has a tumor near his heart and had unsuccessful surgery. Please 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.

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.

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.

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

Casey has strep throat along with her mother Deanna and Grandmother Virginia. Please pray that the other members of the family may stay healthy while those with strep throat recover quickly and rapidly.

Meg recently found out she had heart problems causing low blood oxygen levels, loss of focus resulting in an emergency room crisis. As a result of the symptoms she made errors on the job that caused her to lose her job. She is grateful for the excellent medical care she has received and optimistic, feeling with God's intervention in her life her health may be reversed and a new job will become available.

Barbara has serious problems with her Sciatic Nerve. Please pray for guidance for those treating her, for relief of the severe pain, for trust in our Lord for Barbara and her family, for healing.

Donald is in the hospital and had his leg amputated on 14 April 2014. Pray he will adjust and healing will begin.

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 does not seem to be going well at this point. Pray for inspiration for those caring for her that they might find the appropriate treatment. 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.

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.

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 an 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 16, 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

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 finishes chemotherapy 17 June 2014. Tests the week of 2 June 2014 showed totally clear scans. For now, treatment is done after the last chemotherapy session. Please give thanks for the great result and also for the strength, guidance and peace of mind our Lord gave Mary and her husband Jim, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, she underwent treatment. Please pray she will stay free of the cancer in the future.

Eli a two month baby is back home after going to the ER the night of 28 May 2014, not able to breathe. Please give thanks for her recovery and pray for strength, courage and understanding for Eli's family; as well as for God's guidance for the neurologists and other medical people treating Eli they might find the best course of treatment and allow Eli to heal completely, as well as for strength and understanding for the parents.

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.

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.

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.

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 ago. 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.

Tracey is out of employment and has not received her unemployment compensation or found a new position; please pray these problems will be resolved.

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

Timothy and Sharon had their home foreclosed the morning of 15 April 2014. They are experiencing spiritual, emotional and financial crisis at the current time. Please pray for God's 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.

Linda, Rick, Christian and Sawyer are a family experiencing spiritual, emotional and financial crisis at the current time. Please pray for God's 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

Marie has suffered the loss of her husband, her job and her pet all in a short period of time. Please pray for peace of mind for *Marie*, as well as for trust in the Lord for her and those around her that she might adjust to the changes in her life and move forward to the honor and glory of our Lord with His Help. (140607)

Mitten has a Christian talking to him about Christ. *Mitten* does not believe and does not seem to care. Please pray *Mitten* will see the light.

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.

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

Stephanie seems to be very deeply into post partum depression after her baby was born prematurely. Please pray for her Mother in Law who is going a great distance to

help Stephanie and her new Grandson. Pray that Stephanie will be able to direct her attention outward, rather than inward.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Earl to read and understand Scriptures he has been given.

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

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

From Bishop John Nakka of our Church Family in South India. We must know, but by the grace of God, we could, and may, experience the same in our own land:

Dear ALL,

I am so painfully writing this mail as we are very very suffering a lot politically and also due to separation of our State. No power for around 10 to 12 hours in the cities and more than 12 hours in the villages. No enough drinking water, very hot summer.... Politically we are now really afraid as the sectarian hindu religious background parties took over the Union and State Governments. We are a religious minority in India and now our hearts started beating fast and do not know what happened for us in the near future. WE ARE REALLY UNFORTUNATE. We may live like a second grade citizens and we need to face a very hard persecution as was the Hebrews in Egypt. The persecution was already started and around 05 issues were reported for abuse, warnings and stopping the conventions etc., during this week alone i.e., just within a week after Mr.Modi took over the charge.

PLEASE PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS IN INDIA.

yours fraternally in Christ,

+John.

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.

Thanksgiving

Diane came through her gastrointestinal surgery well and has done well with her recovery. Please give thanks for the great result.

Otto had massive blood clots in both lungs and a smaller one in one of his legs, treatment worked and he recovered further at home. As he regained strength, his work opportunities as a self-employed software and website designer were decreasing due to the economy and he was having trouble paying the bills and heating his dwelling. God provided a house-sitting job during some of the coldest winter days! Then when he went to talk with his landlady about the rent, she suggested he apply for a job at the company where she works. Several weeks later, he got full-time work there! Please give thanks to God for His providential hand and continue to pray Otto will see, know and respond to his loving Saviour! Thank you so much to Otto's sister Penny for updating us on Otto's progress.

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.

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

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

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

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

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

20 July 2013 – Fifth Sunday after Trinity– Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**