



# Anglican Orthodox Church

Worldwide Communion

## The Nativity of John the Baptist

superseding the

## Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Report



Today we celebrated the Nativity of John the Baptist, which as a Red Letter Day, supersedes the Fourth Sunday after Trinity while the otherwise Endless Green Season carries on. There are the propers for both, just in case you did not catch the date on the calendar. Plus, we really like that mote thing that shows up in the Fourth Sunday after Trinity Gospel.

### *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, but overall mostly from Bryan. He always has some great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

All get what they want; they do not always like it.

*Jack Lewis*  
The Magician's Nephew

The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead.

*Proverbs 21:16*

Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

*Matthew 18:4*

Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness.

*Luke 11:35*

Wherefore I give you to understand that no man speaking by the Spirit of God called Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

*I Corinthians 12:3-6*

If you are a believer, you must reckon on having your share of sickness and pain, of sorrow and tears, of losses and crosses, of deaths and bereavements, of partings and separations, of vexations and disappointments, so long as you are in the body. Christ never undertakes that you shall get to heaven without these. He has undertaken that all who come to him shall have all things pertaining to life and godliness; but he has never

undertaken that he will make them prosperous, or rich, or healthy, and that death and sorrow shall never come to their family.

*JC Ryle*  
19<sup>th</sup> century Anglican bishop and author  
Holiness, p. 249

The United States has become a place where entertainers and professional athletes are mistaken for people of importance.

*Robert A. Heinlein*  
20<sup>th</sup> century American science fiction author

The nation which can prefer disgrace to danger is prepared for a master and deserves one.

*Alexander Hamilton*  
American founding father

When people can vote on issues involving the transfer of wealth to themselves from others, the ballot box becomes a weapon with which the majority plunders the minority. That is the point of no return, the point where the doomsday mechanism begins to accelerate until the system self-destructs. The plundered grow weary of carrying the load and eventually join the plunderers. The productive base of the economy diminishes further until only the state remains.

*G. Edward Griffin*  
20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century American author and commentator

### *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 the Nativity of Saint John Baptist are found on Page 242-244, with the Collect first:

**Saint John Baptist. [June 24.]**  
*The Collect.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, by whose providence thy servant John Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour by preaching repentance; Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and after his example constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For the Epistle. Isaiah xl. 1.*

**C**OMFORT ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: the grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

*The Gospel. St. Luke i. 57.*

**E**LISABETH'S full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son. And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her. And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father. And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John. And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name. And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called. And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all. And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God. And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judæa. And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, What manner of child shall this be! And the hand of the Lord was with him. And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: that we should be saved from

our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; the oath which he swore to our father Abraham, that he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life. And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; to give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

The Propers for the Fourth Sunday after Trinity are found on Page 194-194, with the Collect first:

### Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

#### *The Collect.*

**O** GOD, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Epistle came from the Eight Chapter of St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, beginning at the Eighteenth Verse. Paul tells us that walking God's path, though it may seem hard at the time, is nothing compared to the reward we receive in heaven for following God's will. God gave us free will, which if we exercise it properly, that is the will to overcome temptation. What at first seems like a constrained way of living, once actually lived is really perfect freedom. If we overcome temptation to do what we want and do what God wants, we will receive the gift of eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. For until Christ, there was no delivery from the pain of worldly existence; through Christ there is redemption of our souls and our resulting bodily resurrection.

**I**RECKON that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

The Holy Gospel came from the Sixth Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the Thirty-Sixth Verse. This is a simple message, yet often misunderstood, with majestic language that brings the message to a point of incredible sharpness. "Judge not, and ye shall not be judged; condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned; forgive, and ye shall be forgiven; give and it shall be given unto you... ...Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?" "... why beholdest thou the mote that is in the brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye? ...How canst thou say to thy brother, Brother let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest no the beam that is in thine own eye?" This is often quoted, but the following

sentence is left out, "Cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye."

Only when we first take care of our own spiritual health, look to our own relationship to God and evaluate and improve how we follow His Word, we will be able to effectively spread the Word of His love for us.

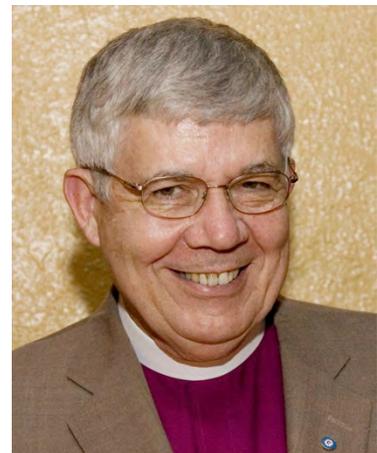
**B**E ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again. And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch? The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Either how canst thou say to thy brother, Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye, when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye.

### *Bishop Ogles' Sermon*

We are off fortunate to get copies of Bishop Jerry's sermon notes. Today is one of those Sundays.

#### **Sermon Notes**

Nativity of St. John the Baptist  
superseding the  
Fourth Sunday after Trinity  
Saint Andrew's Anglican Orthodox Church  
24 June 2018 Anno Domini



**F**OR, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. 3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts. 4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. 5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: 6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse. (Mal 4:1-6)

I have chosen the lectionary lesson from Malachi for today's sermon text.

Chapter 4 of Malachi is one of the most important chapters of the Old Testament - for it is the last before an interregnum silence of the Voice of God to His people for a period exceeding 400 years. It is the seal and benediction on the efforts of man to gain favor with God through the agency of the Law, but it also is an opening of the Veil of Grace on the forthcoming and long-awaited Messiah. The curtain will fall at the close of Malachi and the manmade darkness of blindness will reign during the intervening years.

It is a time of anticipation and preparation of hearts to the coming Light of Christ - of eyes that have grown too blind by perpetual darkness to see but whose scales will fall away if the heart responds to the Good News that is coming. God overlooks no detail in His Message. The very last Word of Malachi is a fitting conclusion to the Old Testament Law and Prophets - CURSE - which I shall discuss later in this sermon. We all have experienced a period of smothering darkness ere the Light of Christ has dawned upon our repentant hearts.

God issues His "Stand at the Ready" command in the very first verse of Chapter 4: **1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.** Ours is not a God of vain words. He commands that we prepare our hearts - BEHOLD. What is published by General Order that we must watch out for? ". . . **the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven.**" This is not a tentative prophecy, but one of certainty. There is DEFINITELY such a day coming. It is not simply coming at the destruction of Jerusalem when the city is trodden underfoot by the Gentiles in 70 AD (as the Preterists aver), but a Day far in advance of time that shall destroy 'with fervent heat' all that is not considered Holy - including man. This is the Last Day, but it also portends the coming of Christ to begin that Judgment that shall follow and offer the Ark of Salvation (Himself) to all who believe. ***But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*** (2 Peter 3:10) This is far more than a mere spiritual purification - it describes a literal destruction of the physical elements.

ALL of the proud of ALL times that have done wickedly shall be consumed with the All-Consuming Fire of God. "***For our God is a consuming fire.***" (Heb 12:29) There will remain no hidden root or branch to sprout beneath the ground that was cursed at the Fall of Adam. ". . . ***cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.***" (Gen 3:17) There will, at some point as well, be a purification of fiery nature that is also related in Malachi 3:2. "***But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap.***" The coming fury of fire and flames will not mar the true metal, or the elect of God. For more scriptural evidence of that day that will burn as an oven, I refer your attention to Isaiah 24:6, Joel 1:19, Rev 8:7; and Rev 16:8-9.

Here follows one of the most wondrously glorious verses in all of Scripture: **2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.** I have heard all of those shallow arguments that attempt to deter the meaning of this "Sun of Righteousness" away from the Lord Jesus Christ. I conclude they are in gross error, for this is fully descriptive of Christ! Just as the sun is the light of the physical world, so is Christ the Sun and Light of Heaven. ***I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*** (John 8:12) Jesus is forever that Great Light which came to the "***people who walked in darkness.***" (Isa 9:2). This is the salient hope held out by Malachi in this last revelation prior to the Coming of Christ. Christ is not only the Bright Sun of Righteousness that shall arise in the Eastern sky, shedding its brilliant beams abroad, dispersing the darkness of sin; but He is the Lily of Hope of the Valleys (not singular but all valleys). (SS 2:1) He is that Bright Star of Hope that follows at the onset of evening shadows and follows us all the night long to the rising of the sun, or, as the scriptures tell us, "***I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.***" (Rev 22:16) He is above us shedding His gleaming rays across our forlorn spirits as we traverse the

dark night of our soul. As that Bright, Morning Star leads us to the eastern horizon, He is transformed into the Day-Star - or the Sun of Righteousness for which we have long waited in hope and faith. "*We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.*" (2 Peter 1:19) His effulgent beams of truth will vanquish every dark sin, and heal the New Creation which He heralds.

The wicked people who have abused the people of God shall become far less than footstools - they shall become ashes under the feet of the righteous. The "easy-believism of a watered-down gospel" being taught in modern churches will be the incubators whereby many are lost. The Coming of Christ at the last shall be a day of horror for those who have taught false doctrine. Instead of coming as a Savior, the Lord will return as a Judge in that day. 3 "*And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts.*"

4 "*Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.* 5 *Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.*" God does not overlook a single hair of the head when He sends out His Word. Please observe the peculiar nature of the two witnesses mentioned in these two verses - **Moses and Elijah!** Remember the Mount of Transfiguration at which Christ was transformed into His glorious manifestation? (Matthew 17, Mark 9, & Luke 9:30) Of what significance is this to the Last Day? You will recall that Elijah was taken by a fiery chariot into Heaven. He did not die. Moses, on the other hand, died on Mt. Nebal by and was BURIED by God. Do you see the significance of this scenario? When Christ shall return, the graves shall be opened and the dead in Christ will arise first (those who are dead as was Moses) and those who are alive at His coming shall be caught up to Him (those who are alive as is Elijah).

Both living and dead in Christ shall be kept for the Master's Table! Moreover, we are commanded to remember the Commandments given to Old (and New) Israel. The Commandments of God are immutable. They are more stringent upon the believer today than even in the days of Moses. In Moses' day, they were Laws graven in stone to be kept to perfection. In our day, they are written in the soft sinews of our hearts and to be obeyed out of love and not constraint. Love bears a far greater responsibility than does legal constraint. Christ did not nullify the Law of God, but confirmed and fulfilled it.

You will recall the Great Commandment? Remember the lawyer's question to our Lord? *Master, which is the great commandment in the law?* (Matthew 22:36) Please examine carefully the Lord's response: *Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*** (Matt 22:37-40) If you barely passed the course in English on literary analysis, you will recognize that Jesus is not nullifying the Ten Commandments, but hanging them upon LOVE for God in the first five, and LOVE for man in the last six. But, you say, there were only TEN. True, but Commandment Five is directed to our earthly fathers and mothers and also to our Heavenly Father. The Fifth Commandment is a transition between our duty to God and our duty to our fellow men. It has a double application since God, too, is our Heavenly Father. *Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.* (Ex 20:12)

Now comes a crushing finale to the Book of the Law and Prophets (Old Testament). *6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.* John the Baptist was a unifying force for the truth of the Coming Christ. He prepared the ground and sowed many seeds, but the Master of the Vineyard (Christ) would be the culmination of all the Law and the Prophets from Abel to Malachi. He would be the One of whom John spoke. His Gospel is one of that unifying love which constrains our obedience to God and love of our fellows. The love of the fathers would be turned to the children, and the children to the fathers. Absent this response of love, the only recourse is judgment. It is quite fitting that the Book of the Old Testament should conclude with the word CURSE since all under the Law are cursed. No one can live righteously apart from the imputed righteousness of Christ. *For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them* (Gal 3:10) There is no division in purpose between the Old and New Testament for it is One Book from Genesis to Revelation. Had God not known that Adam would sin, He would have had no need to prepare for us a Savior from the Foundation of the World. The greatest lesson we learn from the Old Testament is two-fold:

1. We can never be righteous in obeying the Law of God on our own merits. We will fail just as did Old Israel (with exception of those such as Abraham who look forward in faith to the coming of a Redeemer).
2. The Law was our school teacher to show us that we cannot be righteous, but the New Testament of Jesus Christ offers us an imputed righteousness through the grace and shed blood of Jesus Christ.

Have you, dear Reader, availed yourself of that great salvation?

*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.



Consider these words from the Collect:

... sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour by preaching repentance; Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and after his example constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake...

In the Collect, we are reminded that John the Baptist was sent to prepare the world for the coming of the Lord. His primary job was to tell us we were wrong! To tell us, regardless of how wonderful we think we are, as Paul so eloquently put it, *There is none righteous, no, not one!*<sup>1</sup> The religious chosen of the time, the Pharisees and the Saducees, were convinced they held the keys to their own salvation in their odd perversion of The Law. They were not ready to see *The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*<sup>2</sup> John was needed to prepare the way for Jesus to bring that

<sup>1</sup> Romans 3:10

<sup>2</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:56-57

message to them. Just the same, as we receive that message, we are to bring it to those around us so they might be prepared to receive Christ into their hearts and gain the Gift of Life. The Collect warns us that today, just as for John, bringing the Truth to the world can be an unpopular and dangerous line of work. Yet, we are to do so and count the cost later. By the way, bringing the Truth to people does not mean going out to seek a fight, it means answering questions truthfully and honestly without shrinking from that bright light of God.

Isaiah provides the text that serves as the Epistle and continues the same thought. Written long before the time of John the Baptist, it clearly foretells John's mission, if not his coming. That messenger will cry to the people the Lord is Coming! The Lord is Coming! Pay attention to Him! Our lives are but a flash in the pan, our time here is of no consequence. What we do with that time and who we follow defines who we are and where we will be in time eternal. Probably the key is the very last sentence where Isaiah tells us of Jesus *Behold, the Lord God will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.* Preparing the way for the Lord was John's function. Once we join The Church, that is the body of believers, not some building or group or organization, that is our function. To make straight the way of the Lord. That is to prepare the world for Him.

While in the Gospel, Luke relates the simple facts of John's life, there is more to it than that. John was committed to the Lord from the earliest time. He was an example for each of us to follow. He did not let the cares and worries of this earthly existence keep him from acting on the mission God had prepared for him. His father Zacharias recognized this at a very early age and helped him grow into the mission for which the Lord had chosen him.

John set an example for us to follow. He did not just talk about Jesus' coming with a few of his fellow believers who were comfortable with the idea. He brought the Word of God to all who would listen so that they might be prepared for the coming and the glory of the Lord.

We have a similar job in the Great Commission to bring the Word of God, the Truth incarnate, to the world around us. Not necessarily to the darkest part of Africa, but perhaps to even darker places, to the hearts of those around us.

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**

*Sermon – Reverend Jack 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.



Consider these words from the Collect:

... protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal...

We desperately need God's Help, yet paradoxically, God can only help us if we put our trust in Him, we can never be strong, nor set aside to Him, if we do not let Him be our leader. No one can be their own leader, no one. Each of us, no matter our position, must have a immutable directional reference or we become hopelessly lost. For navigation, we have a magnetic compass or better yet the Pole Star, Polaris, which will tell us True North so we can keep headed in the right direction. People have died of starvation in a closely wooded area less than a mile across because they became lost while following their own sense of direction. So it is with our own spirits, that if we rely on our own internal sense of direction we will be come spiritually lost and die a terrible spiritual death.

However if we have the Holy Ghost, we are not separated from God and Christ and will thus become stronger. If we let the Holy Ghost into our hearts, He will both strengthen us and help us to holy, that is set aside. He can also help us be merciful to other people. We just need to listen to what the Holy Ghost says and act upon it.

We need a leader to follow. We cannot be our own leaders. If we try to become our own leaders, it will not work. Fortunately for us God is that Leader. If we will allow His lead, we will pass through this world in good order and go on to the next in eternal happiness. This is a very common theme within Scripture, do what God asks, be happy. Don't do what God asks, don't be happy. It seems simple enough in theory, but a lot harder in practice. It is a lot easier said or thought about than done. We want to do what we want to have fun, God wants us to do what we need to do to be happy. Fun and Happy do not mean the same thing, sometimes, actually oft times, used interchangeably, their meaning is orders of magnitude different.

God is the only one who we should be concerned about, if we follow Him, then those who really matter will like us for who we are and how we conduct ourselves while following God and those who don't are of no concern. Doing what is right is a far more important matter to be concerned with than making sure people like you. Do what is right, avoid what is wrong and you will be happy is a basic principle of the Christian faith.

Paul builds on this, telling us that walking God's path, though it may seem hard at the time, is nothing compared to the reward we receive in heaven for following God's will. He is encouraging us to envision this everytime we are encountering times of trouble and or sorrow. In the end, our reward will outweigh all of our struggles, if we will but keep the course that the Holy Ghost sets out for us.

At first living with the Holy Ghost's/Scriptures advice may seem like a constrained way of living. However, once we actually live the life that God prescribes for us, it is really perfect freedom. It only seems constrained, because we cannot conceive how following His Word will allow us true freedom. If we overcome temptation to do what we want and do what God wants, we will receive the gift of eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. For until Christ, there was no delivery from the pain of worldly existence; through Christ there is redemption of our souls and our resulting bodily resurrection. This is the great gift that Christ has given us, the redemption of our souls and our entry into Heaven, by his sacrifice made once for all time, He secured our entrance into heaven. This is a gift that we should always be thankful for.

Luke presents a simple message, yet one that is often misunderstood, with majestic language which brings the message to a point of incredible sharpness. We cannot help others until our own problems are on the way to being solved through the salvation offered by Christ. We cannot be the guide to Christ for others until we get the help we need to walk the road to Heaven. We need to follow Him, before we ask others to follow us. After all, if we are not going in the right direction, what positive value is there in others following us? We do not want to be leading others towards The Pit, rather, we want to be sure we are on the right path before we guide others along the path. We should be pathfinders, finding the correct path to travel on the journey of life! We must be honest in our appraisal of ourselves so we can do what we are supposed to. We also must not judge unrighteously, but judge with righteous judgment through the Holy Ghost. This means not judging others for sins yourself are committing.

The point is that without the Holy Ghost, all of our judgments are unrighteous. This is what Christ was talking about, and after it, condemn not, lest ye be condemned. This is the part of Scripture that most people seem to forget about. When He said use righteous judgement, he was talking about judging people's behavior by the standards of Scripture, not condemnation. He was talking about using the Scriptures as the standard for judging individual's behavior. He does not mean us to condemn others. This is connected with the parable of the mote. Often times when we are tempted to condemn somebody, we often ignore our own failures and focus on theirs. Let us get our act together first, before we help others. So, how can we, imperfect as we are, be honest with ourselves? The answer is easy, hard to implement, but easy! The Holy Ghost! Let Him into your heart and do what you are told. Simple, yet hard to do. We want to do what we want to do. But yet, it is what must be done, no matter how hard it seems at the time. It will get easier as we do it, but it will never be truly easy. But it is way easier than the alternative, which is not following God's Word.

Speaking of doing, what we do to others is a good measure of how we follow God's Will and Direction. This is the reasoning behind action speaks louder than words. Talk is cheap, action can cost more than words. If you want to know where a person's heart truly lies, you check their words against their actions. We are expected to treat others as we would be treated. Our real earthly fortune, as well as our eternal lives, are a reflection of our commitment to God.

We are so ready to condemn the performance of others when our own is even worse. It is common within all of us, especially me particularly. As Paul tells us, "all fall short." The operative word here is ALL. If we look to condemn and repair our own spiritual lives before condemning others, we will be better suited to help them. Our beam before their mote.

For only when we have taken care of our own spiritual health by looking to God for help to evaluate and improve how we follow His Word, we will be able to effectively spread the Word of His love for us.

And that is our job, to improve ourselves to effectively spread His Word by example; our action, not our diction, is the measure.

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

*Roy Morales-Kuhn, Bishop and Pastor*

*St. Paul's Anglican Church - Anglican Orthodox Church*

Bishop Roy is pastor of the biggest AOC parish West of the Mississippi and is in charge of the Diocese of the Epiphany.

Nativity of Saint John Baptist

*Turning*

24 June 2018

Morning Prayer

Psalms 24 • Malachi 4 • Matthew 11:2-19

**Saint John Baptist. [June 24.]**

*The Collect.*



**A**LMIGHTY God, by whose providence thy servant John Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour by preaching repentance; Make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching; and after his example constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**F**OR, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. <sup>3</sup> And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts. <sup>4</sup> Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. <sup>5</sup> Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: <sup>6</sup> And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse. {THE END OF THE PROPHETS.}

*He shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers.*

Let us ask a question. What does the prophet mean by the phrase "turn the heart?"

He specifically points to the generational aspect of a people. Father to children; children to father. Why? It turns out that Malachi is writing about generational time, not just what is to come some 400 years after the last Old Testament prophet speaks. He is writing about the First and Second Coming of Christ the King. First as a Light to the world, his influences will change a sinner from that state to a state of a holy, joyful, and fruitful soul. This was accomplished when Jesus walked upon the earth as God with us, *Immanuel*.

In those first three verses of Malachi 4 we read of Christ's first and second coming.

*...Behold another day is coming, far more dreadful to all that work wickedness than any which is gone before. How great then the happiness of the believer, when he goes from the darkness and misery of this world, to rejoice in the Lord for evermore!...*<sup>3</sup>

Change. If you turn about and go 180 degrees away from where you were going, you definitely have made a change. We also understand this change as repentance. How do we affect such a change? We do it by example, by reaching out to the lost, by doing good for those who are lost. The example of what it means to be a believer. More Muslims are drawn to Christ by the lives of Christian around the world. They see true believers living their faith daily. The Holy Spirit quickens the soul, draws it to Christ, using faithful believers to share the Light to the world.

Interestingly relevant talk follows:

The following is an excerpt from a talk given in Jerusalem recently during the GAFCON conference. Rev Canon Dr. Kendall Harmon, Canon Theologian for the Diocese of South Carolina and Rev Rico Tice of All Souls Langham Place in the Diocese of London shared about preaching on the doctrine of Hell during a seminar on June 20th in Jerusalem.

Tice argued that people without Christ go to Hell, and with this in mind, Christians should re-organize their time in response.

"What's happened in the Church of England is that we are functional Universalists," Tice assessed. "We care more about what people think of us now than of what God will think about them on the Day of Judgment."

Tice, Senior Minister for Evangelism at All Souls Church suggested three points in preaching about Hell: first, celebrate people as made in God's image. Second, serve: look to do random acts of kindness. Third, cross the pain line: ask a tough question, such as "what do you think about eternity?"

"We've got to put people in an environment where choices matter," Harmon shared. "People understand that their financial planning has consequences, or whom they marry, or what college they go to. They go through the entire week knowing that choices matter, but we've determined that on Sunday the choice about God doesn't matter."

Harmon and Tice also examined concepts of the afterlife: "If you live without God in a fixed sense here, how do you think that will continue in eternity?" Harmon asked, describing how actions in people's lives today can result in calcification down a path later. Two kinds of people resulted: those who say to God "thy will be done" and those who are locked into a trajectory away from God in which God says to them "thy will be done."

<sup>3</sup> from the commentaries of Matthew Henry

“Life is a lot more serious than most of us function as if it is,” Harmon noted.<sup>4</sup>

All in all, when we study the times of John Baptist or the Baptizer, we see the overarching theme of repentance. People of the time were drawn into the wilderness to hear what John had to say. He wasn't pulling any punches. He called out the sinner, he called out the unrepentant and told them they must change, they must repent. They must turn from their wickedness and live. And the sign of this repentance was to be baptized. Even to this day, in cultures around the world, the dividing mark or event between “hearers and doers” is the act of baptism. Many folk hang out with the Christians and enjoy the peace and fellowship and food, but the enduring mark, the indication that one has repented, turned from their wicked ways and seek to follow Christ is; baptism. The act is not a saving act. It is a outward sign of an inward work. The work of the Holy Spirit upon that person's soul. They have been drawn to Christ Jesus by the call of the Holy Spirit, he enlivens their soul, he bring the dead (spiritually) back to life (spiritually) so that they now desire to follow Jesus. That first step in the process being baptized.

“John the Baptist preached repentance and reformation, as Elijah had done. The turning of souls to God and their duty, is the best preparation of them for the great and dreadful day of the Lord. John shall preach a doctrine that shall reach men's hearts, and work a change in them. Thus he shall prepare the way for the kingdom of heaven.”

“None can expect to escape the curse of God's broken law, nor to enjoy the happiness of his chosen and redeemed people, unless their hearts are turned from sin and the world, to Christ and holiness. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all. Amen.”

“The saints' triumphs are all owing to God's victories; it is not they that do this, but God who does it for them”

Beloved remember the words of John the baptizer; REPENT and turn from your wicked ways.

Let us reach out to those around us and as we have heard in today's message, tell them the good news, but do not spare the bad. If they do not repent they will never see their Creator as their loving Father.

Let us pray:

**O** GOD, who hast made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the whole earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach peace to them that are far off and to them that are nigh; Grant that all men everywhere may seek after thee and find thee. Bring the nations into thy fold, pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten thy kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**O** ALMIGHTY God, look mercifully upon the world which thou hast redeemed by the blood of thy dear Son, and incline the hearts of many to dedicate themselves to the sacred ministry of thy Church; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**A** LMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, guide, we beseech thee, the Nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

<sup>4</sup>From a blog by Jeffrey Walton, in [Juicy Ecumenism](#)

**O** LORD Jesus Christ, who saidst unto thine Apostles, Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church; and grant to it that peace and unity which is according to thy will, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*



### *Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sermon*

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



Psalm 118  
Fourth Sunday after Trinity  
June 24, 2018

In keeping with my intent to spend the summer in the Psalms, last Sunday we looked at Psalm 88. We saw it is a song of sorrow. It is the song of a person in the deepest, gloom and despair, and it expresses no hope of ever getting out of the gloom. Its theme is trusting God no matter how bad things may be. Today our Psalm is number 118, and it is the exact opposite of Psalm 88. Psalm 118 is a song of joy.

Psalm 118. *Confitemini Domino.*

**O** GIVE thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious; \* because his mercy endureth for ever.

2 Let Israel now confess that he is gracious, \* and that his mercy endureth for ever.

3 Let the house of Aaron now confess, \* that his mercy endureth for ever.

4 Yea, let them now that fear the Lord confess, \* that his mercy endureth for ever.

5 I called upon the Lord in trouble; \* and the Lord heard me at large.

6 The Lord is on my side; \* I will not fear what man doeth unto me.

7 The Lord taketh my part with them that help me; \* therefore shall I see my desire upon mine enemies.

8 It is better to trust in the Lord, \* than to put any confidence in man.

9 It is better to trust in the Lord, \* than to put any confidence in princes.

10 All nations compassed me round about; \* but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them.

11 They kept me in on every side, they kept me in, I say, on every side; \* but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them.

12 They came about me like bees, and are extinct even as the fire among the thorns; \* for in the Name of the Lord I will destroy them.

13 Thou hast thrust sore at me, that I might fall; \* but the Lord was my help.

14 The Lord is my strength, and my song; \* and is become my salvation.

15 The voice of joy and health is in the dwellings of the righteous; \* the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to pass.

16 The right hand of the Lord hath the pre-eminence; \* the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to pass.

17 I shall not die, but live, \* and declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord hath chastened and corrected me; \* but he hath not given me over unto death.

19 Open me the gates of righteousness, \* that I may go into them, and give thanks unto the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord, \* the righteous shall enter into it.

21 I will thank thee; for thou hast heard me, \* and art become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders refused, \* is become the head-stone in the corner.

23 This is the Lord's doing, \* and it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day which the Lord hath made; \* we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Help me now, O Lord: \* O Lord, send us now prosperity.

26 Blessed be he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: \* we have wished you good luck, we that are of the house of the Lord.

27 God is the Lord, who hath showed us light: \* bind the sacrifice with cords, yea, even unto the horns of the altar.

28 Thou art my God, and I will thank thee; \* thou art my God, and I will praise thee.

29 O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is gracious, \* and his mercy endureth for ever.

While Psalm 88 pitifully wails, "I have cried day and night before thee: O let my prayer enter into thy presence, incline thine ear unto my calling," Psalm 118 says, "I will thank thee; for thou hast heard me." Psalm 88 says, "I am in misery, and like unto him that is at the point to die." Psalm 118 says, "I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord." Psalm 88 is a song of darkness and night. Psalm 118 says, "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."

What is the occasion of such rejoicing? We don't know. Psalm 118 does not have a title like some other Psalms, which you can see in the King James Version. Of course, many have offered speculations about the occasion. Israel's return from Babylon, the first worship service in new Temple after the return from Babylon, a great victory over an invading army, and many other things have been offered as possibilities. But, they are only speculations, and the simple truth is, we don't know what event the Psalm refers to.

We know Israel has much to be thankful for. God chose Israel to be the people He would work with and work through to reveal Himself to the world and to bring the Messiah into the world. He gave Israel His law, which shows how God expects people to live, and which brings peace and equity when obeyed. He gave Israel the land of Canaan, so her people could live in peace, worship Him, and live in His grace and love. In this way Israel would be a light unto the Gentiles, showing how the ways of God are the ways of blessing and hope. He protected Israel from enemies, and blessed her with good things in this life. Surely that is enough to cause someone to write a Psalm like Psalm 118.

We know this is a Psalm for worship in the Temple. There are ancient Jewish documents that suggest this, and even give hints that it was sung antiphonally by the worshipers. While the details of its use are not known, some commentators believe it was used in a manner similar to the following description.

The congregation is gathered in the Temple court on the Sabbath. At the front, facing the altar, the High Priest sings "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious; because his mercy endureth forever." Other priests stand at the Temple gate. They respond by

singing verses 2-19, culminating in the words, "open me the gates of righteousness, that I may go into them, and give thanks unto the Lord."

Here, the congregation answers, saying, "This is the gate of the Lord, the righteous shall enter into it."

Verses 21-26 are sung by all as the priests move into the Temple court and go to the altar, leading the sacrificial lamb. Now the High priest says, "God is the Lord, who hath showed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, yea even unto the horns of the altar."

When the lamb is secured, the High Priest stands before the altar and says, "Thou art my God, and I will thank thee; thou art my God, and I will praise thee." The congregation ends the Psalm, singing, "O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is gracious, and his mercy endureth for ever." At this point the people begin the Temple liturgy of prayers, Psalms, and readings from the Old Testament.

In a way it is good that we don't know the event the Psalm refers to. It is good because it makes the Psalm about rejoicing in all the good things of God, not just the great and spectacular things, like the resurrection, or your own new life in Christ, but all things, even the "little things." It can be about the way God brings you through each day, gives you the strength and means to earn a living, have a comfortable home and good food, family, friends, a faithful church. We don't need to be delivered from a national or family catastrophe to give thanks. We can be grateful for our "creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life" as we pray in the *General Thanksgiving*. While Psalm 88 reminds us of the difficult times of life, Psalm 118 reminds us that God is with us in all times and in all things, and that we always have reason to rejoice and give thanks unto Him.

One of the great reasons for our rejoicing is that God hears our prayer. The man in Psalm 88 feels like God has deserted him. It is as though God is not even listening to his prayers. We all feel that way sometimes. We all feel like our prayers aren't being answered, and aren't even being listened to by God. Yes, we know God knows our thoughts, and hears our prayers, but sometimes it feels like He is hearing without listening. Perhaps you have attempted to contact a someone you thought was a friend, but, when you call, he doesn't answer his phone. You leave messages, but he never calls back. You send texts, but he never responds. You send emails but he doesn't answer. He has even unfriended you. Eventually you realise he doesn't care about what you have to say, and doesn't care about you. Sometimes we think that about God.

But Psalm 118 is the prayer of a person who knows God has heard his prayer. He has heard and answered it with a bold "Yes." Sometimes, when we think God is not answering, He really is answering prayer, but the answer is, "No." We should expect that, because we have had to tell people "no" also. Sometimes we have said it to children who ask for things they should not have. A child would rather eat candy than broccoli, but we would cause great harm if we give him candy every time he is hungry or every time he asks for it, so sometimes we say, "no." Likewise, God would cause great harm to us if He gives us everything we pray for. Therefore, He often answers our prayers with, "no." But, sometimes, He answers with a big, bold, "YES!"

What is the greatest, biggest, most enduring thing you could ever want? Isn't it to know God? What are the trinkets of earth compared to God? What is life on earth compared to Him? Many people have hobbies, to which they devote great amounts of time and money. And they become quite good at them. Many people love their work and become experts in their fields. Some people are CS Lewis scholars. They love CS Lewis and his writing so much they have devoted their lives to studying him. But what are such things

compared to knowing God? Wouldn't you rather be allowed to know Him as your loving Father, and to learn more about His greatness? I am not suggesting you give up hobbies, or stop working and doing the necessary things of life. I am not suggesting that the lives and work of other people cannot be helpful and worthy of study. In fact, I believe only a person who love God in the Biblical sense, can truly love hobbies work, and the other blessings of life because only we see them as they are, gifts of God for us to enjoy as part of enjoying Him. I am saying plainly that God is infinitely greater and more worthy of our study and time. I am asking, wouldn't getting lost in God be your greatest prayer?

God has answered that prayer. In fact, that prayer is exactly what God wants for you. That's why He has given the Bible, the Church, ministers, sacraments, and the Holy Spirit. They are the means by which He answers your prayer. And, of course, that is why God became a Man, and went to the cross, and rose again. He did it to bring you into God. He did it to forgive your sin and restore you to God. He did it so you can dwell in Him, and He can dwell in you.

This closeness to God is expressed in the Psalm in the words "God is the Lord who hath showed us light." He has showed Himself to His people through the prophets, who have recorded His revelation in the Bible. He has given us a glimpse of His beauty and glory and goodness and love. He has shown us enough that those who see the light want to give themselves to knowing and loving Him. What we want most of all is ours. The Psalmist knows this. The Psalmist dwells in God. The Psalmist loves God with all his heart, mind, and soul. Therefore he says, "O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is gracious, and his mercy endureth forever."

Let those who know Him give thanks also.

--

+Dennis Campbell

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

We are fortunate to have Bryan's Sunday Sermon. If you want people to come to The Truth, you have to speak the truth, espouse the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.



### **Fourth Sunday after Trinity**

In Matthew 15:1-20, the scribes and Pharisees scolded our Lord because his disciples did not follow the tradition of the elders, to which he replied, *Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?* When we examine the charge made by his antagonists, we find their accusation to be peevish at best, while our Lord's response was forthright and true as he picked apart their charge using the language of Scripture. He possessed the ability to read their hearts and on that account, he knew their real motives and intentions which had nothing whatsoever to do with the Spirit of God. In another encounter with the scribes and Pharisees, our Lord identified the reason for their failure to understand him when he said: *Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your*

*father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do... and because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.* (John 8:43-45)

It should come as no surprise to anyone regenerate in Christ all who come against the gospel of truth are under the influence of evil whether they realize it or not. That's right, the scribes and Pharisees did not realize that they were pawns of the evil one, and neither do their modern-day counterparts. The former were likely regulars at the Temple and worshipped God much as our Lord related in parable of the Pharisee and the publican (Luke 18:9-14); while the latter are likely members in good standing within the several denominations that make up mainline Christendom. Still, one does not have to knowingly worship Lucifer to be his disciple. One need only follow his insinuations.

As noted, our gospel lesson dealt with the alteration of God's commandments via human tradition. Now it ought to be clearly understood that God's word is truth. It has been given to us for our eternal good by him who is perfect in all things. Thus, for men to tamper with God's word written in order that they might find some exception is worse than folly. When men think that they can edit the word of God so that it says something other than what the Holy Ghost intended, they are putting themselves in the place of God. Was it not that old serpent, Satan, who first amended God's word in the Garden? (see Genesis 3:4-5) vWas it not his influence which lead our first parents into sin? And did not that very condition of original sin also pass down to us? The tradition of the elders which our Lord found so repugnant was very much in line with Satan's temptation of Eve. And our Lord's reply was simple and direct: Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

The choice of being obedient to the expressed will of God is very hard for those who are under the influence of evil. Some will simply ignore God's commands to their eternal detriment; while others will feign to follow Christ by paying lip service to him, all the while living their lives in disobedience to his word and commandment. Our Lord rebuked his critics saying, *Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*

Think on the last portion of our Lord's reply, *But in vain they do worship me.* The superficial Christian has the same status with our Lord as an unbeliever because such a person has never been truly born again of the Holy Ghost. If one is born again of the Spirit of God, then such a person will attempt to lead a life of obedience to the revealed will of God in Christ Jesus. A vain worshiper is merely a show off who possesses no real faith in our Lord, and is only present in church to be seen of others (Matthew 6:5-6).

Within many denominations today, one can witness an appallingly low level of godly faith and obedience as they have welcomed into their midst, and without reservation, individuals who are open and notorious in their sins. They have done this not for the purpose of educating those misguided souls according to God's word written. No, they want to be thought of as tolerant, inclusive, politically correct, or what have you.

Our Anglican fathers thought differently; Article XIX of the Articles of Religion states, "The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men, in the which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments be duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same." Please note that said statement in no way describes those church bodies which have allowed the unrepentant, and those who revel in their sins, to remain within their sacred precincts unrebuked and unchanged. As the apostle Paul once penned in his first epistle to the

*Corinthians: I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person (5:9-13).*

The Bible tells us that we ought to, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness (Psalm 96:9). We should also, come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms (Psalm 95:2). Worshipping God in the beauty of holiness does not translate into an open acceptance of sin. God has condemned sin, and if we are in agreement with those who do such things, then we too will face his wrath. The prophet Amos was given to pose the following question: *Can two walk together, except they be agreed? (3:3).* And the apostle Paul admonished the Corinthians in his second epistle, *for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? (6:14b-15)* If we have been born again of the Holy Ghost, then we ought not continue in fellowship with those who have chosen to disregard God's word and commandment unless and until they repent and reject their wicked deeds and aspirations.

Just as the tradition of the elders had brought to no effect the true meaning of God's word written, the same applies to those churches today which are using one the many corrupted bible translations. Believe it or not, these new bible versions have contributed to the furtherance of many false doctrines and grievous heresies. And since all Christian doctrine stems from God's word written, so it follows that those churches who have employed a corrupted translation of the scriptures will find it difficult to impart a saving understanding of orthodox Christian doctrine to their congregations.

Another example of the modern church adopting the traditions of men can be seen in the various activities they use to promote themselves. Many churches today sponsor activities such as church-based luncheons, dinners, musicals, and concerts. But rare indeed are these events ever prefaced with remarks by their ministers concerning the Great Commission and the need for salvation in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. "Oh, that might keep people away," some might say. Well that's compromising with the world, and the Church is not supposed to be like the world. The only mission that the Church has been given is to proclaim the gospel to a sin-darkened world and not cow-tow to the desires of the unregenerate.

The early Christians broke bread together at an "open table" which meant that it was open to all brothers and sisters in Christ. They also sang songs that lifted up God's holy name in reverence. These hymns were not about the participants, neither were they a show or a performance as they were addressed to God, and their focus was entirely upon him and him alone. The early Church fed the hungry of the household of faith. They did not tolerate evil in their midst, nor was their table and their fellowship open to all without reservation. How many modern churches bother to include a message by the pastor on the necessity for salvation even during their worship services? Sad to say, the modern church has become so much like the world that if those congregations did not possess a church building you'd have trouble distinguishing them from any other nonprofit organization.

So then, why are so many contemporary church bodies offering such programs to the public devoid of the Great Commission? Church growth is all about numbers both in the

pew and the collection plate, and at the expense of sound Christian doctrine. As Pastor Ray Baumann once observed, "Church leadership must decide who is going to grow their church. You either grow it with man or with God. God's way produces disciples changed for life; man's way produces attendees that come as they are and leave as they were."

Here then is the new paradigm for church growth: churches filled with people who neither care for God or his commandments. Likewise, if we invite the world to enter our churches on its terms, it will come and remain on said terms. If we are to avoid such a state then we ought to seek out folks who have discovered as we have, that to love the world is to have enmity with God. We want those to come who have rejected the world, the flesh and the devil. We want those to come who are desirous of living in obedience to God's word written.

It is essential for Christians to keep in mind that the traditions of men have been carefully crafted by the evil one to have only an appearance of godliness. As Paul reminded the Corinthian church concerning those who would feign to be members of the faith, *For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.* (II Corinthians 11:13-15)

So judge righteously and be alert. The Bible tells us to, *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.* (I St. Peter 5:8) There are many deceptive practices which the devil would have the church involved in, and not one of them will advance the gospel of our Lord, or seek the salvation of any soul. If we are not telling people about our Lord who was crucified for us and died; and who was resurrected and has ascended to the right hand of the Father; and who will come again to bring us to the Father's house where he has prepared a place for us; then we are wasting our time and God's patience. If we ever desire to hear from our Lord's lips the words, *Well done good and faithful servant*, then we had best be about his business and that includes our keeping the world, the flesh and devil outside the doors of our churches and that includes its false traditions and beliefs.

Let us pray,

**F**ATHER bless us with such an in-filling of thy most holy Spirit that we may discern what traditions are of thee as opposed to those from our adversary; and this we beg in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

*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 Anglican Orthodox Church 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 Anglican Orthodox Church to be prayed for?**

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

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

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

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

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

No known travel this week.

### **Birthdays**

Bishop Jerry celebrated his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday on 3 June 2018.

Bob Reisor celebrated his 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday on 3 June 2018.

### **Immediate Prayer Please**

Shamu is set to begin experimental drug treatment to allow her absorb nutrients after her twentieth or so abdominal surgery most of which were done by Walter Reed Medical Center until she found John Hopkins who have saved her. Pray also for her to continue her trust in our Lord as she goes through this difficult time.

LTC Jay Houston a very confident Christian, particular friend and one of Hap's favorite WSOs had a biopsy the morning of 9 May 2018 for an apparently major lung issue that has been going on for some time. The biopsy was successful and Jay is awaiting the results. Please give thanks for the surgical team paying attention. Pray also for peace of mind for Jay and his family, as well as a favorable result.

Ken Harris lost his wife Carol in December after many many years of happy marriage and is really lost and unable to regain his place here on earth. Please pray that he will

be able to adjust to her passing and concentrate on those things which he needs to do in order to be an effective and useful member of society here and now. He has much left to do here and right now, he just cannot see his way clear to doing those things. Please pray he will look to God for solace and help at this time of need.

*Evelyn*, an 88 year young woman recently experienced a TIA affecting her sight, speech and walking. Please pray for God to guide those treating her and for her to let God carry her worry.

*Tricia* broke her left arm and it seems to be recovering slowly. Please pray God will enter in to her, help her to regain range of motion in her arm so that she will not require surgery. She would appreciate your prayers for healing and patience.

*Chelsea Brown* has need of God's strength and guidance for her, her daughter Lauren and those around her. Her life has been in turmoil for the past two years. Chelsea was in an accident which left her without the use of her right arm for almost two years, though after two surgeries it is back, her daughter has had three sets of lung blood clots, dropped out of college and lost her job and car due to another accident. Things are very bad for them, they need housing as they are about to be evicted from their current apartment. Please pray that God will give them the direction and strength they need and that the government officials in Raleigh will see clear to provide housing.

*Ron Cole Klages* is a patriotic former Marine who has debilitating blood clots pursuant to cancerous growths on his liver and unknown other places. Please pray for the medical team treating Ron that they might pay attention, do their very best and be open to God's guidance.

*Jill* was on life support; her family members traveled a great distance to see her and returned home safely. Jill's condition improved to critical, but needs your prayers to continue her recovery.

*Samson Hendrik* has prostate cancer and his kidneys are not working. Pray our Lord Jesus Christ will be close to him and his family of friends during this illness.

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

*Amos Dweh* the Bishop of Liberia is critically ill. He is a long standing minister of the Anglican Orthodox Church and preparing to meet the Lord. Please pray for comfort for his family and especially his son Benjamin. This picture was taken when he was in Statesville at St. Peter's Anglican Church the church of the AOC National office after he was consecrated as a Bishop.



### ***In need of a miracle or understanding of God's Plan***

*Doug Lambert* has been battling sepsis of unknown origin. For twelve weeks they have not been able to find the source of the problem. He is very weak and concerned that no one can find the reason for the infection. He asks that you pray for the medical team treating him to do their best, to be open to God's guidance and for him to keep his trust in the Lord and not worry.

*Neal* has heart problems and is very weak, he also has COPD, kidney problems, his potassium is too high, he came back from the point of death. He is now home and permanently on oxygen. He is doing well, for that he and his family are grateful

and ask your thanksgiving prayers. More importantly, please pray Neal will accept salvation through our Lord and Savior.

*Paul* is in hospice and ready to meet His Lord. Please pray for Paul as he prepares to go home to be with his family who have gone before him. Pray for the faith of his family to build and the transition to be good.

*Dot* is an elderly woman with liver cancer. Please pray for Dot 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.

*Mrs. Tiffany (90)* has chosen to refuse extraordinary care as it will not gain much earthly time. The Tiffanys have been together for a long, long, long time. Pray for Mrs. Tiffany and her husband as together they begin this Journey to be with their Lord.

*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.

*Ron* had a Heart Attack, at the hospital he found out he also has Kidney Cancer. He is a man of faith and is in need of prayer for his health and that the Lord will provide strength for his family.

*Kathy Cox Merritt* has been receiving Chemo and 12 November 2016, had bowel resection surgery and was given a very bad prognosis. Kathy just retired as an RN in Orthopedics at a local hospital; sometimes a little medical knowledge can be dangerous to the patient but she remains positive. Please pray for Kathy's healing and peace and comfort for her and her family, both spiritually and physical

*Krysti* is off life support and able to talk, please give thanks for the good news. She is still unable to feel her legs. When that comes back she will go to a rehabilitation facility. Krysti has used drugs, has high blood pressure, is diabetic and has organ failure. Her families are with her and will appreciate your prayers.

*Pat* has metastatic osteosarcoma; there is little that can be done. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Pat's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Pat and family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror.

*Amy* has been diagnosed with metastatic melanoma and has cancer all over her body, and in one of her kidneys which are no longer functioning. Amy and her family have asked for prayer to stop the growth and to aid the family financially with the medical bills. At present she has to have surgery every two months to place stents. Pray Jesus will be close to all.

*Gemma Dillinger* has been treating for breast cancer for over a year now, after surgeries, radiation and chemotherapy, she is reaching the limit of her tolerance with no end in sight. Please pray for her to gain strength and ground on the cancer. Help her to continue with her faith in our Lord, she is not afraid to go home, but wants to make sure it is time. Pray she will be encouraged to not give up until it is her time to go and that her time here on earth with her family will be good.

*Janet* has had a blood borne cancer for several years. Her faith in the Lord is great and she is ready to be with Him. Pray she will be encouraged to not give up until it is her time to go.

*Holly* has had Colon Cancer, Breast Cancer and now it is in her spine. Please pray for guidance for the medical personnel treating Holly, for a miraculous remission; that Holly's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Holly and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror. Pray for strength and courage for Holly.

*Tim* was on a kidney transplant list and started dialysis and was taken off the transplant list for a heart problem that required stents, while putting in stents a leaking valve was found. A port was put in and something happened and it has to be redone. In several days he will have a valve replaced, after heart surgery and recover he will go back on the transplant list. Please remember him in prayer in the days and weeks ahead. Pray he will put his worry on God's shoulders so he might be at peace and rest. Pray for those treating him that they might pay attention and do their best.

*Marilyn* has been diagnosed with non-operable pancreatic cancer. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Marilyn's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Marilyn and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror.

*June* found she has a recurrence of colon cancer, which is now Stage Four, that is it has spread. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that June's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help June and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their sadness, fear, worry and terror.

*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 some time. 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.

*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.

*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.

### ***Homebound or Infirm***

*Loretta Walker* is aging and losing some of her mental acuity, and thus independence, she is also plagued by diabetes and loves sweets. She is understandably vexed with this. She and her family ask you to pray God will help keep her mind and body together and that she not be mean or bait those who care most for her.

*Sarah* had to move to an Assisted Living Home and has found the adjustment very difficult. Please pray she will come to terms with the situation and that her Lord Jesus will be close to her. She recently lost 30 pounds and her eyesight is deteriorating. Pray her appetite will improve and her eyesight will return to normal. Most of all, please pray our Lord Jesus Christ will be close to her at this difficult time.

*Larry H* has general weakness as the result of extreme fatigue. *Larry* is now up and about, walking without assistance. The depression is still a part of his life. Due to several chronic illnesses, he will never be able to live on his own. On the other hand, he has been transferred to a facility near his former home so he will be nearer his friends. *Larry* has difficulty with the lack of what he considers fairness in the Word. Please pray for help for *Larry* to put his trust in the Lord, relax and build strength and give Pastor Roy guidance on helping him.

*Laurel Bessessen* (95) has begun to lose her mental abilities to recall people, places and things around her. Her family is no longer able to care for her at home and she is in a skilled care facility. She is the last of that family's generation. Please pray for the mental degradation to stop or for her to leave for home. Pray for her family who do their best to care for her, visiting every day; for her children *Cookie*, *John* and *Bill*, as well as the other members of the family.

*Judith Clingwall* is afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). She is currently in *Laurel Place*, an extended care facility in *Surrey, British Columbia*. Please pray for 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.

*John* has Alzheimer's pray he will call on God to help him as he deals with this.

*Steve*, brother in law of Paul Martin, appears to have early onset dementia. Steve had teenage children and is very concerned for them. Please pray for the disease to stall or abate and for peace of mind for Steve and his family.

*James* is on oxygen all the time, this is bothersome to him and terrifying as well. Please pray for James to put his worry, his bother and his terror on the Lord. Pray for strength and guidance for James and his family. They suggest this verse, I am thine, save me, for I have sought thy precepts.

*Joan* has had serious medical problems that have kept her confined. Please pray her health will remain stable.

*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.

### **Surgery**

*Maria Carla* is going to the hospital for corrective surgery. Pray our Lord Jesus Christ will be close to her as she has this operation. Pray for her father who will be taking her a long distance for the operation.

*Marcia* has had a biopsy of a mass in her breast which indicated a tumor that must be removed. Pray the surgical team will be open to guidance, pay close attention and do their very best. Pray for peace of mind and trust in God for Marcia and her family.

*Edware* is having his fourth back surgery (in the last four years) Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Edware and his family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*Jeff* has been undergoing surgery, chemo and radiation since October for pancreatitis and Pancreatic cancer. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Jeff, his wife and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

*Albert* had a pacemaker installed recently. He will require surgery soon for a leaking heart valve and has just been told he has esophageal cancer. Pray he will turn to God and come to know Him on a more personal basis as the days go by.

*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.

*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**

*Bryan Alford* (~40) has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma and seeking treatment.

*April and her husband* ask you prayers for the Lord to guide them and lead them both to the correct medical care; and that the family may receive comfort in the process.

*Michael Moriarty* has been diagnosed with upper duodenal cancer which is the upper section of the small intestine. It is fairly rare and they have not decided how to treat him. Pray with Michael, his family and friends that the medical insurance people will fulfill their obligations and the physicians treating him will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Michael, his family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Chloe Mayo*, granddaughter of Justice Roy and Kayla Moore, good friends of Bishop Jerry, suffered a serious kidney attack possibly resulting from strep. Pray her family and friends the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Chloe, her family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Josh* has two little children and just discovered he has a rare form of Cancer. Please keep him and his family in your prayers in the days ahead.

*Ross* an elderly gentleman has been diagnosed with Leukemia. Ross has had good health until now, your prayers at this time will be appreciated by his family and friends.

*Carman* was just diagnosed with breast cancer. Pray for her family as they continue to help her get the proper care. Pray with Carman, her family and friends that the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Carman, her family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Kathie Lynn Holter* sister of Rev Phil Ternahan, was just diagnosed with Stage Four lung cancer (never smoked) which spread to the brain. She was operated on 26 June 2016. Please pray with Kathie, her family and friends that the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for continued trust in the Lord for Kathie, her family and friends in this worrisome time.

*Tina* just found out she has cancer on her left kidney. Please pray for guidance for the people treating her and for trust in our Lord for Tina and her family.

*Martha* is now home after testing and she does not have cancer, but she does have bad kidneys and is adjusting and getting ideas to work with that. Please pray for guidance for the people treating her and for trust in our Lord for her.

*Spencer* has been diagnosed with Autism. Please pray for guidance for the people treating him and for trust in our Lord for him and his mother Lorna.

*Michael* has cancer of the blood and is starting chemotherapy. Please pray for the physicians treating him to be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for Michael.

*Clay* has a large gallstone; he is in poor health and not currently a surgical candidate. Please pray for the physicians treating him to be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for Clay.

*Jim Sevier* has been in the hospital for heart related troubles. Please pray with Jim and his family the physicians treating him will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for Jim and his family in this worrisome time.

*Claude* has been falling and he does not know why. Pray doctors will discover what the problem is and he can continue without any more difficulties.

*Gretchen* has been diagnosed with severe osteoporosis and is now being treated with exercise, nutrition and vitamins. Please pray with Gretchen and her family the physicians treating her will be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for Gretchen and her family in this worrisome time.

*Pete* has not been well and is back in the hospital with another stroke. Please pray for the physicians treating him to be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for Pete and his family in this worrisome time.

*Mary Lee* has bleeding into her stomach and they cannot find the sources. Mary Lee is in CCU and her husband *Maurice* is not eating until she returns home for is so upset. Please pray for the physicians treating her to be guided in their assessment and treatment plan, for a full and speedy recovery to good health and for trust in the Lord for her, Maurice, as well as the rest of the family in this worrisome time.

*Glenn Porter, MAJ USMC Retired*, has Interstitial Pulmonary Fibrosis, which causes him to be unable to get enough oxygen into his system without supplemental oxygen all the time. The only real treatment is a lung transplant, without a transplant he has between two to five years here on earth. Please pray for him to continue in his faith and for a set of lungs to become available.

*Pat* has an aneurism of the brain, pray she will make the right decision on how to treat this problem and it will be healed.

*Dan* is very sick with cancer and is starting an experimental treatment. This treatment will take Dan away from their family business and put even more stress on him and his family. Please pray for Dan's wife who is meeting with Steve who plans to keep the family business going while Dan is ill. Pray for Steve as he has many new responsibilities.

*Timothy* has brain cancer. He had surgery and is waiting for the pathology report to find out what kind of chemo he will need. Please pray for continued guidance for the medical team treating Timothy and patience and trust in God for Timothy and his family. Pray also for a full recovery for Timothy.

*Helen* was admitted from her doctor's office 15 July 2015, as the result of a blood test, to the University of Pennsylvania Hospital with an extremely high white blood count. She and her husband are very active in the ministry of their church and are asking for believers to pray for them and their family, as they are facing very serious problems in the days to come. Please pray for guidance for the medical team and patience and trust in God for Helen and her family. Pray also for a full recovery for her.

*Elma* has been suffering with headaches for a long time. Doctors have not been able to discover the reason for them. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Elma and her family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people caring for her that they might find the best treatment method to banish the headaches completely.

*Barbara Apple* is bedridden after a fall which left her with two paralyzed limbs. She continues to experience pain in the effected limbs and will be totally bed bound

for the remainder of her life. Your continuing prayers for her are appreciated and are great comfort to her. 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 miraculous full and rapid recovery. Also, please continue to pray for her husband Bob who is her sole caregiver that he will be comforted and strengthened in his time of need.

*Deborah* has had a stroke, she is doing much better and out of the hospital. She has a problem with anemia and is taking supplements for that. Pray our Lord will be close to her and her family. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Deborah and her family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people caring for her that they might find the best treatment method to allow her to heal completely.

*Rev. Steve Boardman* has been diagnosed with stage 3 cancer. Pray that Jesus will be close and comfort his family and members of his congregation.

*Hang So Ryu* has cancer. Please pray for medical team contemplating and evaluating the treatment that they might be guided to the correct choice and do their very best. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for him and his family, as well as physical strength.

*Olivia*, age 7, has been diagnosed with Stage 3 Lymphoma. The prognosis is good at this time, please pray for medical team contemplating and evaluating the treatment that they might be guided to the correct choice and do their very best. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Olivia and her family, as well as physical strength.

*Paul* has been hospitalized recently several times because of persistent high fevers. He is being tested and checked by physicians and seems to have a slight scoliosis, a node and Schuermann's disease. Please pray it will be discovered how to treat these problems and healing will begin so he will be inspired to continue his education.

*Rick* has heart problems. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating him that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Rick and his wife Wanda to keep their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

*Stacy* has Multiple Sclerosis and was hospitalized for what turned out to be food poisoning. Pray for trust in God for Stacy and Chris as they deal with Stacy's illness.

*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* is having surgery on 30 September 2016 to repair a hole in his aorta bleeding into the abdomen which caused stroke like symptoms.

*Joe* has had a preliminary ALS diagnosis. Pray the final diagnosis will be 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.

*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.

*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.

*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 appreciates 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**

*Jim Simmons'* Hodgkin's disease has returned after 24 years. He hopes to get through this as he did before. Jim would appreciate your prayers for the medical team treating him; please pray for the doctors, nurses and technicians treating him to pay attention, to be open to God's guidance and do their very best. Pray for trust in our Lord and peace of mind for Jim and his family.

*Kurt Thomas* asks for your continued prayer that his body not reject his transplanted heart parts. Pray also for Kurt to accept what he cannot do at present and concentrate on what he can do. This is a very foreign situation for this Christian warrior. He needs God's help to adapt and prosper.

*Vladia* had a right knee replacement which went well, but since the operation she is experiencing very painful side effects from medicine, very low hemoglobin and also back problems. She has been transferred back to the hospital to help correct these problems. Please pray the doctors will seek God's Wisdom and come up with a plan to help her get back on her feet and have some normalcy in her life.

*Madisun Hanks* (14) has Tourette's Syndrome and suffers from horrible migraine headaches. There are various very high risk treatments which provide some relief. None of them are close and none are easy. Madisun is truly one of the most inspiring young ladies we have ever come across, her attitude and actions are almost unbelievable. No one should have to go through what she does, but she makes it through and performs incredibly when others just get by. Please pray for Madisun, her mom Hilda who guides her through all this and those treating her.

*Linda* has a melanoma just forming and she needs to have it removed. She has had severe medical problems the last 15 years and needs help coping. Pray for all of her family at this time as new problems have come to light.

*Chris Hill* (close friend of Jon Weston) suffered a brain aneurysm and needs your prayers. He came out of a coma he had been in since the week before Christmas 2016. He is now in a stepdown facility. Every day is a new day to him; his memory seems to have been damaged to a point where it is not recovering so far. Pray for the doctors, nurses and technicians treating him to pay attention, to be open to God's guidance and do their very best. Pray for trust in our Lord and peace of mind for Chris and his family.

*Rev Bill* had a stroke. Pray he will stay comfortable and Jesus will be close by, please pray for a full and rapid recovery.

*Dennis* will begin chemotherapy for an active cancer spot on his spine on 17 September 2015. Please pray for a good result and tolerance of the treatment for him.

*Vickie* has been bothered with Migraines and all that go with the headaches. Please pray for relief from the pain for Vickie.

*Jon* has Stage 4 mantle cell lymphoma. There is good news in that he is in remission; however the chemotherapy is producing neuropathy in his legs so it is a challenge for him to get around. Please pray that he will be as comfortable as possible; he has been a Marathoner runner so this is especially difficult.

*Amy* has melanoma in her lungs, liver and kidneys; they have found a treatment for her that has a high success rate however the side effects are debilitating. Please pray she will be able to tolerate the side effects and the treatment is successful. Amy has full trust in the Lord, but would still appreciate your prayers.

*Liz* had a massive stroke at age thirty-seven. The prognosis is good but she has a long road ahead. Please pray for guidance for those treating her, for trust in our Lord for Liz and her family, for healing.

*Ebick* is suffering from a severe ulcer but the Doctors cannot give her the proper dosage of the medicine due to her six month pregnancy. Please pray doctors will find an alternative avenue for treatment or that God will provide.

*Stan* is going through chemotherapy and radiation treatments for cancer. He is elderly and the treatments are tiring him. Please pray for his wife *Marvelene* as they do this together.

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

*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.

*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 choose the best possible treatment and pray for peace of mind for Alwin during the recovery phase.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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, she is doing much better and she and her family thank you for your prayers. Her pain level is high and some medications have bad side effects. Please continue her in Prayer in the weeks ahead as she heals.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*Kay Denton* (Mrs. Kay) was able to get a hip replacement in spite of her heart and kidney problems and is recovering remarkably! Please give thanks for this great event and result! 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.

### ***Healing and Patience***

*Kym* (43) has various hip problems which seems to be related to osteoarthritis. And, her mother *Ruth* is in the early stages of dementia. Pray for guidance for those treating both of them, as well as patience and trust in the Lord for both of them.

*Christopher* has had problems with his leg for some time. Now he has to have it casted and it will stay that way for what to him seems an interminable time. Pray for patience and peace of mind for this young man who has much he wants to do.

*James* for the Lord's healing of health issues and give a remedy for many personal challenges at the moment.

### ***Thanksgiving and Continued Healing***

*Bruce Arnold* was hospitalized with Atrial Fibrillation and an enlarged heart. He has had his heart stopped and re-started twice, as well as a temporary boost pump installed and removed. He made it through all that and is now home and doing amazingly well. Please give thanksgiving for that. There is still more to go. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating him that they might find a complete solution to his heart problems. Pray for peace of mind for Bruce, his wife Milly and his children Megan, Kikki and Bruce, Jr.

*Shamu* starts an experimental drug treatment to help her absorb nutrients after somewhere around twenty abdominal surgeries culminating in surgery at John Hopkins hospital 19 March 2018, where they found a stricture in her lower intestine and relieved it. Please pray this will be effectual in relieving her suffering. She is also having trouble retaining nourishment and hydration, pray a

solution will be developed for this problem also. Please pray particularly she will retain her trust in God and her family will follow suit.

*Bill* had surgery November 2016 for a kidney tumor; he is one kidney short, but recovering very well for the present. It appears the cancer has spread to another spot. Please pray for Bill as he undergoes chemotherapy and perhaps other treatment. Pray Bill and his family will stay strong in their faith and draw the strength they need from our Lord.

*Anita* had surgery on 4 November 2016 to remove what they thought were five tumors in her right lung, but turned out to be eight. They removed all eight. In addition, her lung was folded from her previous coil embolization. They removed the coils, unfolding her lower right lobe and oversewed the area. In reality she may come away with increased lung capacity. Anita, her husband Michael and family express for the power of your continued prayers and expressions of love. Please join them in giving thanks for God's Grace and pray for her continued healing.

*Bob Reisor* had surgery on 19 September 2016 for a kidney tumor; he is one kidney short, but recovering very well for the present. The cancer has spread to his lung and another spot. Five years ago there was no treatment, but now it appears there is an oral medication that has shown great effectiveness on this particular cancer. As of 12 January 2017, the main spot shrank from 3.3 cm (1 1/3 inch) to 2.2 cm (7/8 inch) and the spots on his lungs have receded even more. And as of 22 June 2017, they have shrunk further. Please give thanks to the Lord for such wonderful progress. Please pray for Bob as he undergoes chemotherapy and perhaps other treatment. Pray he and his family will be drawn closer to our Lord.

*Atina* has skin cancer, which is now in remission. Please give thanks for the remission, pray for continued remission of the cancer; pray also for continued faith for Atina and her family.

*Cindy* (81) had an operation to remove a cancerous growth in her stomach which was successful. She is now home, but in a bit of pain. Please give thanks for the good result, pray for full and complete healing and remission of the cancer, as well as cessation of the pain; pray also for continued faith for Cindy and her husband Les (91).

*Linda* had successful dental surgery on 15 December 2015, she is also on a course of chemotherapy and this type of surgery was not recommended for people while they are taking chemotherapy. But, it was an emergency and had to be done. Please give thanks all went well and pray for continued healing and for peace of mind and trust in God for Linda and her family.

*Ruby* broke her hip on 10 December 2015, surgery was successful. Please give thanks for the successful surgery and pray for her full and rapid recovery.

*Terry* was undergoing radiation treatment for cancer, which he had to stop to amputate his leg below the knee due to diabetes. The surgery was successful, he has been fitted with a prosthetic leg and foot. He is in good spirits and positive about the remainder of his treatment. Please join Terry and his family in giving thanks for the successful surgery and continue to pray for his return to radiation treatment and then to chemotherapy, ask God to give Terry, his wife and seven year old son trust in him for peace of mind and heart, as well.

*Janet Jessup* had a stroke and heart problems were causing huge issues for her. They seem to have gotten her stabilized and she is home. Please pray for those treating her to

find the appropriate treatment and for trust in God and peace of mind for Janet and her family, in particular her husband of 45 years, Rev Roger Jessup, retired minister of Saint Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Orthodox Church.

*Sam* had surgery on his entire large intestine that had become infected. At the time of the operation he was just hours away from a complete organ shutdown. He had had turmoil in his life over the years. Sam is now in the ICU and his Minister visited him and explained to him God had given him another chance for him to make things right with his Lord. Pray for his good health and his spiritual life with Jesus.

*Ian* had surgery to remove excess skin rendered a nuisance by controlled loss of 200 pounds. Please give thanks for the successful result and for those treating him to have paid attention and done their very best on the lengthy surgery, taking the best possible care of him. Please pray for his continued recovery and strength for his Mother who will be in charge of his after care.

*Jennifer* had surgery for breast cancer on 15 October 2014, which seemingly went well; please give thanks for that. She has had other complications which preclude her from making a full recovery in particular, the reconstructive surgery seems to have gravely affected her back muscles and nerves, resulting in both very limited mobility and extreme pain, the drugs are making her terribly sick; please pray those will be overcome. Pray for help for Jennifer to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry and concern as she recovers. Please pray also for strength and courage for her family as they try their best to help her.

*Mary Thornell* has been battling colon cancer for three years now, she is currently treating at the City of Hope. Things seem to be going well, the numbers seem headed in the right direction. Please pray for guidance for those treating her, as well as strength, guidance and peace of mind for Mary and her husband Jim, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, as she undergoes treatment.

*Elma* is suffering from cancer. She was taken home from the hospital on the advice of her Doctor. We were asked to pray Elma's remaining time here on earth might be good and 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.

*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* 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.

### **Business**

*James* and *Sarah* who have recently moved to a new area and have new positions in employment. They are finding much stress in the new surroundings and will appreciate your prayers as they adjust.

### ***Financial Guidance and Employment***

*Kona* is applying for a job in the hospital. Pray our Lord will find the right position for her and she will glorify Him in the work.

*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 aspects of her potential work.

### ***Financial Guidance and Healing***

*Clark* is in need of salvation; for God's Will to be done in his life. Pray his family will be blessed with the financial miracles that come from doing His Will.

### ***God's Strength and Peace of Soul***

*Roger* is the caretaker for his ailing father who has been in the hospital for a week and his wife who had been declining emotionally, cognitively and in bodily health. He asks you pray for strength and peace for him and help for those he cares for.

*Charlie McCormack* asks your prayer the Holy Ghost might fill his heart with light and drive the darkness far away.

### ***Guidance***

*Zachary* is having huge problems growing up. He has let the wrong people guide his life and thinks he is the smartest person in the world. He cannot or will not see the destructive power of drugs and lies in his life. Pray his parents Lee and Shamu will come to see what course of action that they can take to help Zachary and safeguard his brother and sister. Please pray for God's guidance for all of them and in particular for Zachary to open his heart to God and his parents help.

*Judy* seemingly does not want to allow the Holy Ghost into her heart so she might come to know our Lord and Savior, despite the efforts of her family. Please pray for her to open her heart and for her family to be at peace with their efforts.

*Barbara* has been recovering from cancer for the last three years. Pray for her husband Bill who has come down with a mental illness that may have been caused by much stress the last few years. Barbara and Bill will appreciate your prayers.

*Larry* is very weak and has periods of confusion and depression. Larry has been in the hospital and recently moved to a rehab. Please keep him in prayer as he begins to gain strength in the days ahead.

*Thomas* recently learned as the result of a parole violation he will not be allowed to return to society for the remainder of his life. He is despairing and fearful of his inability to cope with this new news and God's plan for his life. Please pray he will be able to work with God to live with the choices he has made and go forward.

*Cam* has gotten into some of the issues being with the wrong crowds, too much drinking and making the wrong decisions. Pray he will ask God to send the Holy Ghost in to straighten things out and he will listen when He speaks to him.

*Paul* recently had his large toe amputated due to diabetes and is having a difficult recovery filled with fear about dying. He recently accepted Jesus as his savior and his family Rosie and Brenda are very grateful. Pray for strength for both Rosie and Brenda who are staying by his side through it all encouraging him on.

*Steve* is addicted to alcohol, pain pills and gambling. Pray for wisdom, courage and strength to stick with treatment and follow God's plan for his life.

*Eli* has some mental issues and has lost his way. He has yet to come to grips with the demons chasing him. Pray he will return to the Lord and his family. Pray they will ask God to send the Holy Ghost in to straighten things out and they will listen when He speaks to them. The family has been open to the Prince of Darkness and needs help.

*Michael and his Family* ask your prayers for wisdom as they are under trial and affliction to follow the law of the land and yet honor God in so doing.

*Flora* is in remission with cancer, but has high blood pressure and fatigue. Flora's Mother recently died and this has caused added stress. Please pray she will be able to let God carry her worry and sorrow so she can do the things she must do.

*Elizabeth* needs your prayers for her general well being. Pray she might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide her life.

*Gunner* need your prayers for his general well being. Pray he might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide his life.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*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.

*Sam* and her *two children* 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.

*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.

*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.

*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.

### **School Challenges**

Destiny, Blake and Janet

### **Anglican Orthodox Church**

#### **Madagascar**

Please pray for the people in Madagascar, in particular for the members of the Anglican Orthodox Church there, who are being subjected to terrible flooding and unceasing rain.

#### **Indonesia**

Please pray for the Lord's will regarding the establishment of an AOC church in Indonesia.

#### **Pakistan**

*General and Ongoing* - The forces of evil are strong in Pakistan. The force of God stronger. Pray for our Christian family there.

*Ernest Jacob*  
Presiding Bishop Pakistan

#### **Congo**

*Jimmy* is a missionary in the Congo. There has been violent unrest in this country and also a water shortage. Please pray people will find water to drink and *Jimmy* will be a means of helping others to find the Lord.

#### **Philippines**

Please pray a *Minister* will be found who would like to serve in Tabuk, in the Philippine Islands. The Anglican Orthodox Church has an established Church there and in the surrounding areas and need a Shepherd to lead the flock.

#### **Diocese of the Epiphany**

*Saint Paul's Moberly, Missouri* would like your prayers that the Holy Ghost might enter more fully into their hearts so that they might be more effective in spreading the Word of God.

#### **Diocese of Virginia**

*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, had to retire as he was so pressed by the duties of a primary care giver, in addition to all the worries of this world. Pray for trust in God for each member of the parish and for them to find economic relief.

### **Armed Forces & Contractors**

Dustin (USAF - Stateside), Kristyna and Luis Aviles (Army - Schofield Barracks, HI), Airman Donny Patton (USAF - Hulbert Field, Florida), Jordan Brown (USMC - Recruiter - Iowa City, Iowa), Trevor Jennings (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator -

McGuire AFB, NJ), Trevor Di Marco (USN - Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Virginia), Ethan (US Army Airborne – Southwest Asia)

### *For Our Country*

Our country has lost its way. Over half the people that vote, voted for a government that promises them things it cannot deliver in return for their souls which it can, will and does take. Our foreign policy backs the rise of Islam, we turn our backs on those who would follow God and arm those who murder them. Pray God will raise up a leader from among the people who can turn the country's course 180° and attempt to come back to God. Pray the people will recognize that they are headed down a smooth wide road into the pit, a road that will get smoother and smoother, steeper and steeper until the only possible way is down. Down, into the depths of the pit. Pray people will recognize there is:

- One True and Triune God who is goodness in and of Himself;
- All religions are not equal;
- All ways of life are not equal;
- The Bible holds the Key to Life;
- All rights come from God, not the State;
- Good;
- Bad;
- Evil;
- Right;
- Wrong;
- Allah is the Devil;
- Abortion is no more than sacrifice of children to Baal.

Pray this recognition will not come too late. Pray we will, each of us, do our duty to God, Country and Family, putting His Honor above all.

### *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.

### *Education*

*Aaron* is in need of God's guidance to see what he needs to do to fulfill his potential and live his life in a manner which will bring true happiness to him.

*Thomas Dabney* is attending Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi, to finish his Bachelor's Degree. Please pray for Thomas to focus on education and do his very best at school.

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

1 July 2018 – Fifth 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**