

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity welcomes you!

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. JUNE 16, 2024

A Reading from *Life Together*
by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

In the Christian community thankfulness is just what it is anywhere else in the Christian life. Only they who give thanks for little things receive the big things. We prevent God from giving us the great spiritual gifts he has in store for us, because we do not give thanks for daily gifts. We think we dare not be satisfied with the small measure of spiritual knowledge, experience, and love that has been given to us, and that we must constantly be looking forward eagerly for the highest good. Then we deplore the fact that we lack the deep certainty, the strong faith, and the rich experience that God has given to others, and we consider this lament to be pious. We pray for the big things and forget to give thanks for the ordinary, small (and yet really not small) gifts. How can God entrust great things to one who will not thankfully receive from him the little things? If we do not give thanks daily for the Christian fellowship in which we have been placed, even where there is no great experience, no discoverable riches, but much weakness, small faith, and difficulty; if, on the contrary, we only keep complaining to God that everything is so paltry and petty, so far from what we

expected, then we hinder God from letting our fellowship grow according to the measure and riches which are there for us all in Jesus Christ.

Christian community is like the Christian's sanctification. It is a gift of God which we cannot claim. Only God knows the real state of our fellowship, of our sanctification. What may appear weak and trifling to us may appear great and glorious to God. Just as Christians should not be constantly feeling their spiritual pulse, so, too, the Christian community has not been given to us by God for us to be constantly taking its temperature. The more thankfully we daily receive what is given to us, the more surely and steadily will fellowship increase and grow from day to day as God pleases.

Christian brotherhood is not an ideal which we must realise: it is rather a reality created by God in Christ in which we may participate. The more clearly we learn to recognize that the ground and strength and promise of all our fellowship is in Jesus Christ alone, the more serenely shall we think of our fellowship and pray and hope for it.

[Source: Celebrating the Seasons]

MORNING PRAYERS @ 9a.m., Chapel.
(Tuesday-Wednesday; Friday & Saturday)

JUNE:

- June 19, Wednesday, 3:00p.m., Wedding
- June 22, Saturday, 2:00p.m. ECW Gen. membership meeting; 3:00p.m., Wedding.
- June 27, Thursday, 3:00p.m., Healing mass.
- June 29, Saturday, 6:00p.m., Jasper Dave Flores in a "Bridging Recital", UST Graduate School.
- June 30, Sunday, 9:30a.m., Baptism; French Service, 11:30a.m.

JULY:

- July 6, Saturday, Wedding, 3:00p.m.
- July 12, Friday, Wedding, 2:00p.m.
- July 13, Saturday, Wedding, 3:00p.m.
- July 14, Sunday, Wedding, 2:00p.m.
- July 28, Sunday, Wedding, 3:00p.m.

SAINTS:

Bernard Mizeki, Apostle of the MaShona, 18 June. Born in Portuguese East Africa, Bernard Mizeki went to work in Cape Town and there he was converted to the Christian faith by the Cowley Fathers. He then gave his life as a translator and evangelist among the MaShona in what is present-day Zimbabwe. He was murdered on this day in 1896 in a tribal uprising and is revered throughout Central Africa as a witness to the gospel of Christ.

Alban, First Martyr of Britain, 22 June. Alban was a soldier in the Roman city of Verulamium (now St Albans in Hertfordshire) who gave shelter to a Christian priest fleeing from persecution, hiding him in his house for several days. Greatly influenced by his devotion to prayer, Alban received instruction from the priest and was converted. When the priest's hiding-place was discovered, Alban dressed himself in the priest's cloak and was arrested in his place. Tortured by the Roman authorities, Alban refused to renounce his faith. He was beheaded on this day, probably in the year 250, and so became the first British martyr. His shrine stands today as a place of pilgrimage in the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban.