

26 Guards

A missionary on furlough told this story while visiting his home church in Michigan. “While serving at a small field hospital in Africa, every two weeks I traveled by bicycle through the jungle to a nearby city for supplies. This was a journey of two days and required camping overnight at the halfway point.

On one of these journeys, I arrived in the city where I planned to collect money from a bank, purchase medicine and supplies, and then begin my two-day journey back to the field hospital. Upon arrival in the city, I observed two men fighting, one of whom had been seriously injured. I treated him for his injuries and at the same time talked to him about the Lord. I then traveled two days, camping overnight, and arrived home without incident.

Two weeks later I repeated my journey. Upon arriving in the city, I was approached by the young man I had treated. He told me that he had known I carried money and medicines. He said, “Some friends and I followed you into the jungle, knowing you would camp overnight. We planned to kill you and take your money and drugs. But just as we were about to move into your camp, we saw that you were surrounded by 26 armed guards. At this I laughed and said that I was certainly all alone in that jungle campsite. The young man pressed the point, however, and said, “No sir, I was not the only person to see the guards. My five friends also saw them, and we all counted them. It was because of those guards that we were afraid and left you alone.”

At this point in the sermon, one of the men in the congregation jumped to his feet and interrupted the missionary and asked if he could tell him the exact day this happened. The missionary told the congregation the date, and the man who interrupted told him this story: “On the night of your incident in Africa, it was morning here and I was preparing to go play golf. I was about to putt when I felt the urge to pray for you. In fact, the urging of the Lord was so strong, I called men in this church to meet with me here in the sanctuary to pray for you. Would all of those men who met with me on that day stand up?” The men who had met together to pray that day stood up.

The missionary wasn't concerned with who they were, he was too busy counting how many men he saw. There were 26.

This story is an incredible example of how the Spirit of the Lord moves in mysterious ways. If you ever hear such prodding, go along with it.

with God, all things are possible

~ Unknown Author

Sung Eucharist
7:30 AM

Celebrant:
Rev. Garret

CSI St.Thomas English Church

Church of South India –Diocese of Madras
Santhome, Chennai-600 004
<http://www.santhomeenglishchurch.org>

Evensong
6:00AM

Message:
Dr. Edward
Kennedy

*Believing in
Christ:
The Way*



Altar flowers, Bible

Readings, & Offertory:

Mr. & Mrs. Gilfred Sam
Chandra Kumar & Family

WORSHIP SERVICE 7th May 2023

Let us worship our Lord through...

Opening Hymn : 133

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament Exodus 14: 10 - 20

Epistle Acts 16: 19 - 34

Responsive Reading Psalm 116

Gospel John 14: 1 - 7

Announcement

Preparatory Song: Jesus I love You with all my heart

Meditation: “Believing in Christ: The Way”

Offertory Hymn: 129

Communion Hymns: 45, 29, 72 (NLH)


Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn : 134(NLH)

Collect for fourth Sunday after Easter: God, our parent, whom we know through Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life, help us to believe in Him and be saved so that we walk in Your light having fellowship with one other and the blood of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever more. **Amen.**

<p>Responsive Reading: Psalm 116</p>	<p>I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!” Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful. The Lord preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you. For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling; I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living. I believed, even when I spoke: “I am greatly afflicted”; I said in my alarm, “All mankind are liars.” What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord, I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds. I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord! Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.</p>
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<p>Birthdays</p>	<p>7th May Mrs. Veena Deepak Miss. Neha Rahul Christopher Master Jonathan Balraj Roopsingh 8th May Dr. S. K. Mathew Mr. John Ebenezer Mal 9th May Mr. Emerwin Bright 10th May Mr. D. Bright Joseph 11th May Mrs. Shailaja Henry 12th May Mrs. Sheeba Roshan</p>
<p>Wedding Anniversaries</p>	<p>8th May Mrs. Praveena & Mr. E. Daniel Mal 11th May Mrs. J. Emily Getsie Susannah & Rev. J. Paul Sudhakar 12th May Mrs. Suganthy & Mr. R. Jayakumar 13th May Mrs. Rani & Mr. P. P. J. Rajaiah</p>
<p>Preparatory Song</p> 	<p>Jesus I love You with all my heart- <i>FMPB Navodaya team</i> Jesus I love You with all my heart Jesus I owe You what all I have Lord I praise You Lord I bless You For all You have done on the cross for me, I live my life for You.</p>

Welcome

First Time Visitors