

ST ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026
9:00AM

THE REV. DR. RICHARD VEVIA, JR.
PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

JUSTIN HANSEN
ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
490 Farragut Circle
El Cajon, CA 92020
Phone: 619-444-8212
E-mail: generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info
Website: www.st-albans-church.org

Welcome Newcomers!

We are blessed to have you with us today. Please sign our newcomer's book at the back of the church, introduce yourself to the priest, and join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall immediately after the service, just across the courtyard.

Our hope is that you find a home among us, in a place where the love of God is shared, the mystery of grace is experienced, and the joy and laughter of the Christian life is taught.

To learn more about St. Alban's call the office at (619) 444-8212 or email us at: generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info. Also, check out our website at www.st-albans-church.org.

To the Parents of Young Children

We are so glad you are here! We know how challenging it can be to get a family out the door to come to church. We hope you can relax and receive the gifts of God that are here for you today. Please don't worry about squirming children or crying babies. All are welcome here. If you feel you must leave the service with your child, please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." We want them to know they are at home in this house of worship.

To All Worshippers

The presence of those with special needs is a gift to us and the Church. Please welcome all children and give their parents a smile of encouragement. Please greet those with special needs and their families, helping them to know they are valued and accepted in our community. Please introduce yourself to someone you do not know.

Thank you for being the welcoming Body of Christ!

PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers: Ahlam Westeen, Amal, Amanda & family, Angelynn Than & family, Bernice & Grace, Branda Moua, Chris Miller & family, Christine Peters, friends & family of David Hensen, friends & family of David Webb, Diaa, Don Mitchell, Dyvid Elias, friends & family of Edwin Anderson, Eileen McMillen, Fatin, Gavin Bishop, George Elia & Ibtisam Bashee, Georgina & Phil Loveless, Grizzley Ressler, Helen Molanphy, Hilda Ro & family, Jacque Swerdfeger, Jamal Shorees, Jason Longworth, Jennifer Airy, Jennie French & family, Josh P, Judith Taylor, Judy Brown, Kent Crothers, Laurie Ibanez, Linda Fairweather, Marion Weist & family, Mike & Molly, Mike & Penny Park, Mishael, Mu Tay, friends & family of Nanajan, Pa Lae, Raida Nooh, Ricardo, friends & family of Rick Williams, the Rodriguez family, Roger & Chris, the Romeo family, Rose Williams, Samir Matta, Shae Paw & Lily, Victoria Mayor, and Vivien.

Pray for those serving in the military: Barnes, Christopher Ibanez, Joshua Ibanez, Clarence Thompkins, David Longworth, Donovan Burns, Jacob Swerdfeger, Lindzy Macias, Phoenix Locken, Riley McMillen, Travis Warner, and Xavier Arthurs.

We pray for peace in the Holy Land most especially for our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Haiti, Myanmar (known as Burma), Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Pakistan, Tunisia, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Somalia, Israel and Palestine, and all places on the earth where people are in danger and treated unfairly, who are suffering deprivation, torture, and death for confessing Christ as their Lord.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer: We give thanks today for the clergy and people of Clergy and people of: St. David's in San Diego. And also, for the children and teachers of St. David's Preschool.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we give thanks today for The Church in Wales.

Prayer Requests: To make a request or to update requests, please call the St Alban's office: 619-444-8212, or email: generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info. You are also invited to add a prayer request in the narthex to be read in our Sunday public prayers. We can also receive prayer requests through our website: www.st-albans-church.org



ACCESIBLE RESTROOMS ARE LOCATED IN THE PARISH HALL ACROSS THE COURTYARD.
Please ask the usher if you need assistance.

The Word of God

Prelude

Welcome

Please rise in body or spirit.

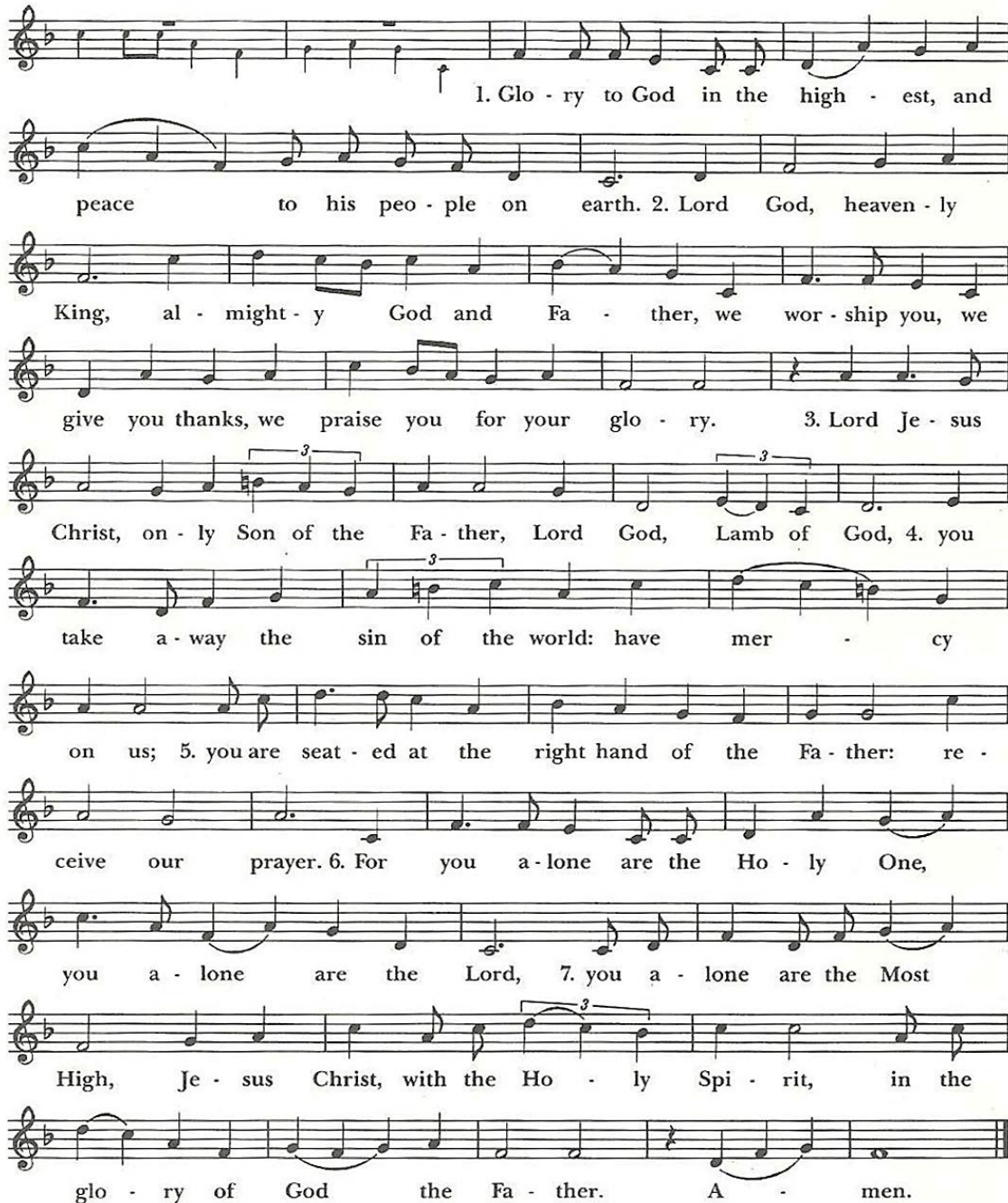
Opening Hymn – *Hymnal 529, “In Christ There Is No East Or West”*

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Gloria – S280



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day –

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have given Your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of His most holy life; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

A period of silence is kept.

The Lessons

The First Lesson – Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Lector: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,

for soon My salvation will come,
and My deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to Him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be His servants,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast My covenant--

these I will bring to My holy mountain,
and make them joyful in My house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on My altar;

for My house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,

I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Read responsively by verse.

Psalm 67

BCP Page 675

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of His countenance and come
to us.

**2 Let Your ways be known upon earth, *
Your saving health among all nations.**

3 Let the peoples praise You, O God; *
let all the peoples praise You.

**4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for You judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.**

5 Let the peoples praise You, O God; *
let all the peoples praise You.

**6 The earth has brought forth Her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us His
blessing.**

7 May God give us His blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe
of Him.

The Second Reading – Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Lector: A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

I ask, then, has God rejected His people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that He may be merciful to all.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Music – LEV 154, “Taste and See”

Taste and see.
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see.
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord,
of the Lord.

The Gospel —Matthew 15:21-28 (Reading in Arabic)

Sequence Music – LEV 154, “Taste and See”

The Gospel – Matthew 15:21-28 (Reading in English)

Celebrant: The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But He did not answer her at all. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before Him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their Masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Sequence Music – LEV 154, “Taste and See”

Sermon – The Rev. Dr. Richard Vevia, Jr.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Lord Christ, You became flesh and dwelled among us and through Your Holy Spirit You dwell among us still.
Use Word and Sacrament this day to help us know this truth more deeply in our hearts
and live its reality more fully in our lives. **Amen.**

Sequence Music – *LEV 154, “Taste and See”*

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Please rise in body or spirit and join me in saying the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed

All say together.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor: Father, we pray for Your holy Catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Intercessor: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve You;

People: That Your Name may be glorified by all people.

Intercessor: We particularly pray for our brothers and sisters in Russia and areas under its control;

People: That they would have freedom to worship Christ.

Intercessor: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, particularly Sean our presiding bishop, Susan our bishop, and Richard our priest-in-charge;

People: **That they may be faithful ministers of Your Word and Sacraments.**

Intercessor: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, particularly President Donald Trump, Governor Gavin Newsom, and Mayor Bill Wells;

People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Intercessor: Give us grace to do Your will in all that we undertake;

People: **That our works may find favor in Your sight.**

Intercessor: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

Ahlam Westeen Amal Amanda & family Angelynn Than & family Bernice & Grace Branda Moua Chris Miller & family Christine Peters friends & family of David Hensen friends & family of David Webb Diaa Don Mitchell Dyvid Elias friends & family of Edwin Anderson Eileen McMillen Fatin Gavin Bishop George Elia & Ibtisam Bashee Georgina & Phil Loveless Grizzly Ressler Helen Molanphy Hilda Ro & family Jacque Swerdferger Jamal Shorees Jason Longsworth Jennifer Airy	Jennie French & family Josh P Judith Taylor Judy Brown Kent Crothers Laurie Ibanez Linda Fairweather Marion Weist & family Mike & Molly Mike & Penny Park Mishael Mu Tay friends & family of Nanajan Pa Lae Raida Nooh Ricardo friends & family of Rick Williams the Rodriguiz family Roger & Chris the Romeo family Rose Williams Samir Matta Shae Paw & Lily Victoria Mayor Vivien
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Pause for additional petitions, spoken aloud or silently in your heart.

Intercessor: And those not named here but known to You.

People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Intercessor: Watch over those serving in the military, particularly:

Barnes Christopher Ibanez Joshua Ibanez Clarence Thompkins David Longsworth Donovan Burns	Jacob Swerdferger Lindzy Macias Phoenix Locken Riley McMillen Travis Warner Xavier Arthurs
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Intercessor: And we give thanks for all our veterans:

People: **Thank You good and gracious God.**

Intercessor: Give to the departed eternal rest.

People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Celebrant: We praise You for Your saints who have entered into joy; particularly **Bernard of Clairvaux**, Monastic and Theologian, and all who have died in the hope of the resurrection,

People: **May we also come to share in Your heavenly kingdom.**

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of Your people and strengthen us to do Your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A period of silence is kept.

All say together:

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved You with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in Your will,
and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.**

Absolution

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep You **+** in eternal life.

People: **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

At this time you are invited to greet others with a handshake, a wave or hug in peace as you are comfortable.

Announcements

Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalms 50:14*
All things come from You O Lord.

People: **And of Your own we have given You.**

Offertory Response – “Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

The Holy Communion

Please stand in body or spirit.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of His true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith and giving to Your Church the power to serve You as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore, we praise You, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of Your Name:

Sanctus S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, _____ Ho - ly, ho - ly,

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, _____ hea - ven and earth are full, _____

full _____ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes _____ in the name of the Lord. _____

_____ Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In Your infinite love You made us for Yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, You, in Your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, Your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to You, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to Your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night He was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when He had given thanks to You, he broke it, and gave it to His disciples, and said,

"Take, eat: This is My Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me."

After supper He took the cup of wine; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said,

"Drink this, all of you: This is My Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of Me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling His death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer You these gifts. Sanctify them by Your Holy Spirit to be for our people the Body and Blood of Your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve You in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all Your saints into the joy of Your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through Your Son Jesus Christ. By Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer – *(Arabic/English - please see pew card)*

A moment of reverence is kept.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Invitation

Celebrant: This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ.
It is made ready for those who love Him and who want to love Him more.
So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;
you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time;
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed;
come, not because the church invites you;
it is Christ, and He invites you to meet Him here.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn – *Hymnal 278, "Sing We Of The Blessed Mother"*

Please stand in body or spirit.

Celebrant: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

People: **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Eternal God, heavenly Father

People: You have graciously accepted us as living members
of Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and You have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve You with gladness
and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Recessional Hymn – *Hymnal 296, “We Know That Christ Is Raised”*

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Participants in Today’s In-Person and Online Worship

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Richard Vevia, Jr.

Assisting: Postulant Mary Zori

Cantor: Samir Matta

Lectors/Intercessors: Colette Hurd, Joanne Bishop, Tracy Vevia

Organist/Choirmaster: Justin Hansen

Streaming Tech: Lily Airy

Gospel Readers: Arabic - Nawal Yousif, Mary Zori, Samir Matta, Jamil Shorees, Ibtisam Bashee, Nahrien Patak,
Intissar Razoq, & Musa

Karen - Angelynn Than

Ushers: Sharon Hathaway and Lisa Hilliker

Altar Guild: Lisa Hilliker, Ibtisam Bashee, Intissar Razoq

VOICE OF THE MARTYRS

There are books in the narthex which can be borrowed for 1 week.

Christianity in Russia and areas under its control

Christians in Russia who are not part of the Russian Orthodox Church are legally restricted in several activities of their faith, especially evangelism. While the Putin regime hasn't yet used these laws to severely persecute Christians in Russia, there is great concern at how ideologies, such as the "Russian World" (Russkiy Mir), that lead to persecution are being instilled in Russians through media portrayals, government edicts and Russian Orthodox Church teaching. For example, Russia's 2016 Yarovaya Law (named for the law's political champion, Irina Yarovaya) claims to counter terrorism and secure public safety, but the law restricts Christians' freedom of worship and evangelism.

The law and its amendments characterize Christians and churches outside the Russian Orthodox Church as religious extremists, criminalizing the speech and activities of Russian Christians who faithfully witness for Christ. Christians in Russian-controlled areas outside the country face increased restrictions and suffer violence at the hands of those acting on behalf of the Putin regime. In these areas, all Christian activity is tightly controlled by severely restrictive religious laws. Churches outside the Russian Orthodox Church, even those that previously had been legally registered, are being denied permission to exist, and unregistered churches face punishment. All Christian literature must be approved by Russian-backed authorities before it can be legally distributed. In addition to these restrictions, churches have been violently attacked, pastors have been attacked and abducted, and some pastors have been killed. With respect to Putin's war with Ukraine, the intent of the war is not to persecute Christians but rather to further Putin's consolidation of power. However, elements of persecution are occurring within the context of war. Persecution has been used as a tactic to isolate Christians who are opposed to Putin and his regime.

What It Means to Follow Christ in Russia and areas under its control

While Putin is not opposed to (Orthodox) Christianity and has publicly espoused conservative moral values, even presenting himself as the "protector of Christianity" in Russia, he is opposed to the West and views evangelical Christianity as being connected to the West. Some Christians with connections to the West have been targeted for persecution, while Russian Christians who do not oppose the regime still meet openly in their churches. In Muslim-majority regions of the North Caucasus, such as Chechnya and Dagestan, Christians face persecution both from their families and the local government. The Putin government cooperates with Islamic authorities as a strategy to exert control in the region.

Report Misconduct: The Episcopal Diocese of San Diego considers the reporting and investigation of misconduct to be of critical importance. Reporting enables the diocese to protect the complainant, the respondent, and the larger community. It also allows the diocese to assist with the spiritual, psychological, and emotional needs of all concerned during and after the report of misconduct.

Intake Officers: The Rev. Willy Crespo, frcrespo@gmail.com, and Ms. Meredith Hardy, mlh8180@gmail.com

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