**St. Anne’s Episcopal Church**

**March 30, 2025**

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# Fourth Sunday in Lent

**March 30, 2025**

**HYMN: “**I want to walk as a child of the light**” #490,** vs. 1-2

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

***All: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

Priest:  Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:  Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.  **Amen**.

Priest: Lord, Have Mercy.

***People: Christ, Have Mercy.***

**All: Lord, Have Mercy.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Priest: Let us pray:

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

 ***All: Amen.***

**THE WORD OF GOD**

### A Reading from the Book of Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

 The Word of the Lord.

***All: Thanks be to God.***

### Psalm 32

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*
and whose sin is put away!

Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, \*
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*
because of my groaning all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*
and did not conceal my guilt.

I said," I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." \*
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \*
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*
I will guide you with my eye.

 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; \*
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

**A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 5:16-21**

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

 The Word of the Lord.

 ***All: Thanks be to God.***

### Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

### Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke

### *All: Glory to you, Lord, Christ*

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

 **Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.**

***All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**SERMON**

**NICENE CREED**

***All:    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 worshiped 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.***

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Intercessor: God loved us so much that his Son had to suffer the agony of the cross.

In this season of Lent, we pray for the Church and that it will teach your gift of eternal life.
Loving God,

***All: Hear our prayer***.

We bless the work of the clergy, missionaries, and Bishop Kevin. May they continue to spread Your Word.
Loving God,

***All: Hear our prayer***.

We pray for our nation’s leaders, that they will be enlightened with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.
Loving God,

***All: Hear our prayer***.

We pray for our youth, that they may follow in the footsteps of Christ.
Loving God,

***All: Hear our prayer***.

We pray for a cure for the sick. Give eternal rest to the dying.

Loving God,

***All: Hear our prayer***.

Priest: Lord keep us in your love, preserve our community, and do not let us become separated from one another. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***

**CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION**

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

***All: 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.***

*Priest:* 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. *Amen.*

**THE PEACE**

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

***All: And also with you.***

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

**Offertory Sentence**

**Hymn for Reflection**:

*“***When I survey the wondrous cross**”

Priest:  All things come of thee O Lord.

***All:  And of thine own have we given thee.***

**Eucharistic Prayer C**

Priest:The Lord be with you

***All: And also with you.***

Priest:Lift up your hearts.

***All:* *We lift them to the Lord.***

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

***All:* *It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

Priest: God of all, creator of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

***All: Glory to you forever and ever.***

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

***All: By your will they were created and have their being.***

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason and skill.

You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

***All: Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law.

And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman to fulfill your Law, to open to us the way of freedom and peace.

***All: By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

***All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,***

***heaven and earth are full of your glory,***

***hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the blood, now celebrate his gift to us. We now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

***All: Come Holy Spirit, Breath of Eternal Life.***

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this bread and this cup, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,

***All: We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

God of our holy Ancestors; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Deborah, Ruth and Esther; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; For power only, and not for compassion; For pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

***All: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor, glory, worship, and praise, now and forever.

***Amen.***

Priest: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**The Lord’s Prayer**

***All: Our Father, who art in heaven,***

 ***hallowed be thy Name,***

 ***thy kingdom come,***

 ***thy will be done,***

 ***on earth as it is in heaven.***

 ***Give us this day our daily bread.***

 ***And forgive us our trespasses,***

 ***as we forgive those***

 ***who trespass against us.***

 ***And lead us not into temptation,***

 ***but deliver us from evil.***

 ***For thine is the kingdom,***

 ***and the power, and the glory,***

 ***forever and ever. Amen.***

**The Breaking of the Bread**

Priest: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

***All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.***

**Prayer of St. Alphonsus:**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

All: ***Amen***

**COMMUNION REFLECTION:**

“**You are the bread**”

**Post Communion Prayer**

***All: Eternal God, Heavenly Father,***

 ***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**

Priest: May the blessing of almighty God descend upon you and remain with you always. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

**DISMISSAL**

Priest: Go in peace to love & serve the Lord

***All: Thanks be to God.***

**HYMN: “**There's a wideness in God's mercy**” #470 vs. 1&2**

Lectors: Counters: Lock Up: Altar Guild: Acolyte:

 **8:00 a.m.**  8:00 a.m.

 Ruth Jan P. Cathie M Bob

 **10:00 a.m.**  Kathy C.  10:00 a.m.

 **Lizzy**



 **Birthdays Anniversaries**

**Levy Mason 4/4 Meg & Ray Leister 3/30**



***‘BEYOND THE BROKEN HEART’ GROUP Next meeting will be April 9th @ 11:00 in the church***

**A group to support and guide those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.**

**Your grief path is your own but the burden of it can and should be shared.**

**Contact Kathy Terrible, Sharon Searfoss or Donna Bennett with any questions:**

 **Sharon Searfoss 610-844-6648 srsrn78@gmail.com**

 **Kathy Terrible 610-762-4763** **chatkatt@ptd.net**

 **Donna Bennett 484-894-0607 donnabennett@rcn.com**

**The Kindness Project (TKP)**

**Beginning Sunday September 8, 2024, we launched a new outreach endeavor “The Kindness Project”. TKP provides support to foster families and the children across eastern PA by supplying clothing, shoes, furniture, and other essential items-free of charge. Foster children are often placed with no personal items, sometimes leaving their homes with only the clothing they are wearing.**

**At their boutique, The Kindness Exchange in Emmaus, babies, children and teens are provided with stylish new or like new clothing and personal items to help meet their most immediate needs.**

**A box is available in the parish hall for any donations you care to make. Monetary donations can be made by putting a check in the offering plate on Sunday or mailing a check. Please put “Kindness Project -Fund 64” in the memo line.**

**We know you will support this very worthy Outreach ministry with the same enthusiasm, generosity and love that St. Anne’s always does.**

**\*\*\*\*\*Immediate Need**

 **Most in need of the following items (brand new):**

**- Toddler socks**

**- Crib sheets**

**- Bassinet sheets**

**- Pack and Play sheets**

**- Crib mattress protectors**

**- Baby towels**

**- Burp cloths**

**- Baby hygiene for sensitive skin (baby wash, baby shampoo, baby lotion)**

**FELLOWSHIP EVENTS**

**4/7 St. Anne’s fundraising eat in or take out on Monday April 7 @ Anthony’s coal fire pizza, Trexlertown! All you have to do is mention St. Anne’s when paying your receipt and we get 20% back! Please join the luncheon group, or go for dinner or take out on this day! Our goal is to make $500! Hours are 11am-9pm. Bring back your receipt to church the following Sunday and place in the raffle jar with your name and telephone number on back for a chance to win a prize!**

**Lunch Bunch
The next meeting of the lunch bunch will be on April 7, 2025 at Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza in the Hamilton Crossings Shopping Center. Please note that this is also a fundraiser for St Annes and 20% of each check will be donated to the church. Please RSVP to Nancy Dalpezzo atndalpezzo@aol.com no later than April 6. All are welcome.**

 **4/13 Egg hunt at 11 am rain or shine!**

**Seeking baked goods donated for the egg hunt on 4/13 as this event is open to public and will serve coffee and baked goods. Please see sign up sheet, if you can contribute a new or baked good and drop off on or before 4/13. Thank you!**

**Fundraising team is asking for raffle baskets for our annual summer picnic raffle! Please help us reach 20 baskets to raffle off for our church! Can be gifts cards, theme baskets, etc. Please see Robin or Caroline to drop off by 5/4.**

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| **UPCOMING EVENTS - SIGN UP SHEETS ARE IN PARISH HALL** |
| 3/26 Lenten Forum “The impossible dream” |  |
| 4/4 Stations of The Cross, 4 p.m. |  |
| 4/7 Anthony’s dine in or take out fundraiser |  |
| 4/7 Lunch Bunch Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza |  |
| 4/9 Beyond the Broken Heart |  |
| 4/13 Egg Hunt |  |
| 4/16 Adult Education "The Church and Science" 6:00 pm |  |
| 4/17 Maundy Thursday, 6:30 pm |  |
| 4/18 Good Friday, 6:30 pm |  |
| 4/20 Easter Sunday, 7:30 Memorial Garden (weather permitting) |  |
| 4/20 Easter Sunday, 10:00 am  |  |

***Church Services***

 **Sunday, March 30th Sunday, April 6th  Sunday, April 13th**  *8:00 & 10:00 a.m. 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. one service 9:30 a.m.*

**Maundy Thursday, 4/17 Good Friday, 4/18 Easter Sunday, 4/20**

 **6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.**

**ST. ANNE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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 Junior Warden

 Connie Archer, Secretary………… 610-751-6907

 Treasurer

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