

# LENT 4

30 March 2025

## HYMNS

- 613 Lord of all hopefulness  
659 The king of love  
217 Love divine all loves excelling

## SENTENCE

God has reconciled us to himself through Christ, and given us the ministry of reconciliation.

## COLLECT

God of compassion, you are slow to anger, and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts: receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you, and seat them at your bountiful table, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## READINGS

A reading from the book Joshua:

At that time the Lord said to Joshua, 'Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites a second time.' So Joshua made flint knives, and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath-haaraloth. This is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the warriors, had died during the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt. Although all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people born on the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised. For the Israelites travelled for forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the warriors who came out of Egypt, perished, not having listened to the voice of the Lord. To them the Lord swore that he would not let them see the land that he had sworn to their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey. So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way.



When the circumcising of all the nation was done, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. 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 encamped 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.

*Joshua 5.2-12*

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

We say the verses of Psalm 32 alternately.

Happy the one whose transgression is forgiven, and whose sin is covered.

**Happy the one to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

For I held my tongue; my bones wasted away through my groaning all the day long.

**Your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up like the drought in summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and my iniquity I did not hide.

**I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore let all the faithful make their prayers to you in time of trouble; in the great water flood, it shall not reach them.

**You are a place for me to hide in; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with songs of deliverance.**

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

**'Be not like horse and mule which have no understanding; whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.'**

Great tribulations remain for 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.**

*Psalm 32*

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Christians in Corinth:

From now on, therefore, 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. So 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.

*2 Corinthians 5.16-21*

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

I will rise and go to my father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus said, '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 travelled 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.” ’

*Luke 15.11-32*

This is the Gospel of the Lord,      **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **PRAYERS**

**Anglican Church:** St George's Ivanhoe East (Incumbency vacant); Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia; Shelford Girls' Grammar (Katrina Brennan, Principal); Province of the Anglican Church of Congo (Bp Georges Titre Ande); St Mary's West Perth - National Bishops' Conference (all Bishops).

**For the parish:** For the congregations of our parish and visitors. For the churches on the Surf Coast: the Baptist Churches, Salvation Army, Uniting and Catholic Churches; City on a Hill Surf Coast, The Living Room and Surfcoast Chapel, and those who gather in small ways in homes. May we work together as sisters and brothers in the body of Christ.

**For the sick & in need, and those who have need of strength, courage and peace in their journey:** Morgan, Dina, Keiran & Paul, Deirdre B, John B, Barry B, Lorraine D, Lydia E, Peggy & John F, Nan L, Jane & Peter M, Janet N, Stephen P, Pauline R, Hadyn R, Jenny S, Yvonne S, Susan T-J, Sharon V, Ray & Marion W and those known to us in need of our prayers

### Year's mind

*4th John McCall (2014)*

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

*31st Lorraine Driscoll*