Welcome!

ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

P.O. BOX 889 TIFTON, GA (229) 382-7505 STANNESTIFTON.COM

24th Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026

We've been expecting you.

Please maintain prayerful silence and turn off cell phones before the service.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *(Please stand)* ..... **Red Hymnal 436**

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

THE GLORIA ..... **Red Hymnal S-280**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSON

A Reading from the Book of Joshua.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem. (*Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25*)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 78:1-7 *(Prayed in unison)*

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;

6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments.

THE EPISTLE

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.
(*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN *(Please stand)* ..... **Red Hymnal 324**

THE GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly

I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." *(Matthew 25:1-13)*

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON.....***Fr. Nathan Wilson***
A period of silent reflection is observed after the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED.....**Prayer Book 358**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE.....**Prayer Book 388**

THE CONFESSION.....**Prayer Book 360**

THE PEACE

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY & DOXOLOGY ..... **Red Hymnal 380** *(v. 3)*

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A *(Please stand)*..... **Prayer Book 361**
THE SANCTUS ("Holy, holy, holy").....**Red Hymnal S-129**
THE LORD'S PRAYER.....**Prayer Book 364**
THE AGNUS DEI .....**Red Hymnal S-163**

COMMUNION & HEALING

All who have been baptized with water in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—regardless of denomination—are welcome to receive Holy Communion at St. Anne's. If you wish to receive a blessing instead, fold your arms across your chest as the minister approaches. If you would like information about baptism at St. Anne's, please speak to the priest after the service.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you have trouble coming to the altar, notify an usher so that the priest can come to your pew.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Eat This Bread and Never Hunger.....**Blue Hymnal 692**
Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ..... **698**
Healer of My Soul.....**633**
Be Still.....**129**

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER .....**Prayer Book 366**

THE BLESSING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *(Please stand)* .....**Red Hymnal 68**

THE DISMISSAL.....**Prayer Book 366**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS: Today's flowers are given by Gayle Belcher to the glory of God and in memory of Bill Belcher on his birthday.

ANNUAL MEETING: St. Anne's Annual Meeting will take place after church today. We will begin with a soup lunch and move directly into the business part of the meeting, during which we will elect new vestry members for the coming year. Separate lunch and a movie will be provided for the children in the Ministry Center.

NEXT SUNDAY: Bishop Logue will be with us next Sunday for confirmation, during which we will welcome several youth and adults who are making a public profession of faith. To celebrate, we are enjoying a covered-dish lunch in the Parish Hall directly after the service. Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share; the church will provide fried chicken. This is a great chance to greet our newest members, chat with the Bishop, and relax with friends.

ADVENT: The Church's new year begins with the first Sunday of Advent, which lands on November 29 this year. Everyone is invited to gather in the Parish Hall after church that day to construct Advent wreaths for use at home. Bring greenery from your yard to decorate the wreaths; candles and other supplies will be provided.

PARISH HALL RANGE: We are in the process of getting an electric range for the Parish Hall, as many find an electric range easier to use than a gas one. Our gas range is still in good condition; if you or someone you know would be interested in purchasing or would like more information, please contact our Junior Warden, Clayton Riehle.

COMING UP: Join us on Friday and Saturday, December 4-5, for our annual Greening of the Grounds, when we prepare our campus for the holy seasons of Advent and Christmas. We will meet on Friday, December 4, from 5 to 7 p.m., and on Saturday, December 5, from 9 to 11 a.m. We need help to move all of the decorations to the right places, and a few brave souls to go up ladders to hang greenery. Something for everyone!

GIVING

YOUR GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE: St. Anne's runs solely on the generosity of its members. Give today via the offering plate; or text STANNESTIFTON to 73256; or scan this code to give online. Every gift, large or small, sustains the church we love.

OUR GIFTS AT WORK: Hope for Kids. The Hope for Kids Ministry aids in making Christmas merry for children visiting the Patti Cake House with a cash donation. Donations are used to purchase clothes & supplies by the staff for 3 children in need. Contact Libby Robertson for more information.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

JANUARY – SEPTEMBER 2026
Income: $306,825 Expenses: $320,199

TODAY'S LITURGICAL MINISTERS

MC	Pam Leonard
Vestry	Libby Robertson
Lectors	Peter Pinnow, Erin Campbell
LEMs	Brenda Doss, Andrea Milton
LEV	Libby Robertson
Media	Gabe Milton
Greeter	Libby Robertson
Acolytes	Sarah Johnson, Acolyte Master: Riley Johnson, Ella Johnson, Eli Johnson, Oliver Johnson, Alyssa Johnson, Jenna Logan, Korbin Huggins
Altar Guild	Glenda Johnson, Heather Johnson, Kay Barfield
Ushers	Chris & Heather Grimes, Alex McLemore, Micah Johnson

PARISH PRAYER LIST: Mary Margaret, Laura, Martha, Kalley, Dave, Mabel, Melissa, Larry, Lucille, Bucky, Mary Anne, Molly Kate, Johnny, Jason, Karen, Mike & Marion, Jerry, Cheryle, Debbie, Lisa, Elsa, Sheila, Tommy, Jackie, Paula, Grace

BIRTHDAYS: Lauren Abbott, Elise Camoston, Joseph Camoston, Micah Johnson, Linny Carmichael, Korbin Huggins, Paul Carrier, Beckett Casimiro

IN THANKSGIVING: For the birth of Lakelynn and Emery Johnson, granddaughters of Jeff and Heather Johnson, and great-granddaughters of Johnny and Glenda Johnson

FOR THE DEPARTED: Marge Speich, Cheryl Hess, John Ross

OUR CLERGY: The Rt. Rev'd Frank Logue (Bishop), The Rev'd Nathan Wilson (Rector)

PREPARING FOR HOLY ORDERS: Brandon Medley, Ricky Day