



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

**ADVENT I
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
WITH HOLY BAPTISM
10:10 AM
DEC. 1, 2024**

SLOW DOWN. BE QUIET. IT'S ADVENT.

In these few weeks, the Church bids us to change our pace. As all around us speeds up and points toward Christmas, we are called to slow down and be quiet. Advent, which literally means ‘coming’, is the season of anticipating Christ’s coming – in the infant born of old in Bethlehem, in Jesus who desires to live in love within our hearts and souls, in the Christ whose coming in glory we longingly await.

The lessons from scripture, the phrasing of hymns, the language of the prayers and the overall orientation of our common worship during these weeks are lovingly designed to point us to each of these Advents, inviting us to make space in our lives for the living Christ.

Above all, I hope and pray that you will make space for silence in these weeks, as it promises to be nourishing to your soul. Additional time for quiet reflection will be held during our worship and I would invite you to intentionally keep the time between the bellringing at 10:00AM and the opening hymn as a space for a holy silence to be kept.

Slow Down! Be quiet! It's Advent.

—Fr. Andrew

WELCOME!

We are so glad that you are here to share in worship of the Living God. Restrooms are located in the hallway beyond the Foyer.

A nursery is available for children up to age five and is in the hallway beyond the Parish Hall.

Please silence all electronic devices.

“BCP” page numbers refer to the red *Book of Common Prayer* found in the pew rack in front of you. Hymn numbers refer to the blue *Hymnal, 1982* also found in the pew rack. Note that ‘S’ numbers refer to service music and are located at the beginning of the hymnal.

A prayerful silence begins at 10:00AM as the bells ring the hour.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

THE WORD OF GOD

(All stand as able.)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN Come thou, Redeemer of the earth *Veni Redemptor Gentium*



Come thou, Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy Virgin-birth:
Let ev'ry age adoring fall,
Such birth befits the God of all.

From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds,
His course he runs to death and hell,
Returning on God's throne to dwell.


O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene,
And twilight never intervene.

All laud eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Ghost for evermore.

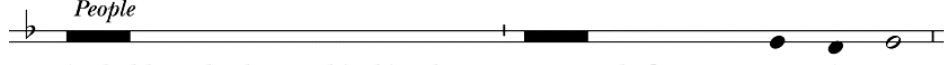
Text: St. Ambrose (340-397), trans. J.M. Neale

Celebrant



Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

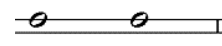
People



And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Celebrant prays

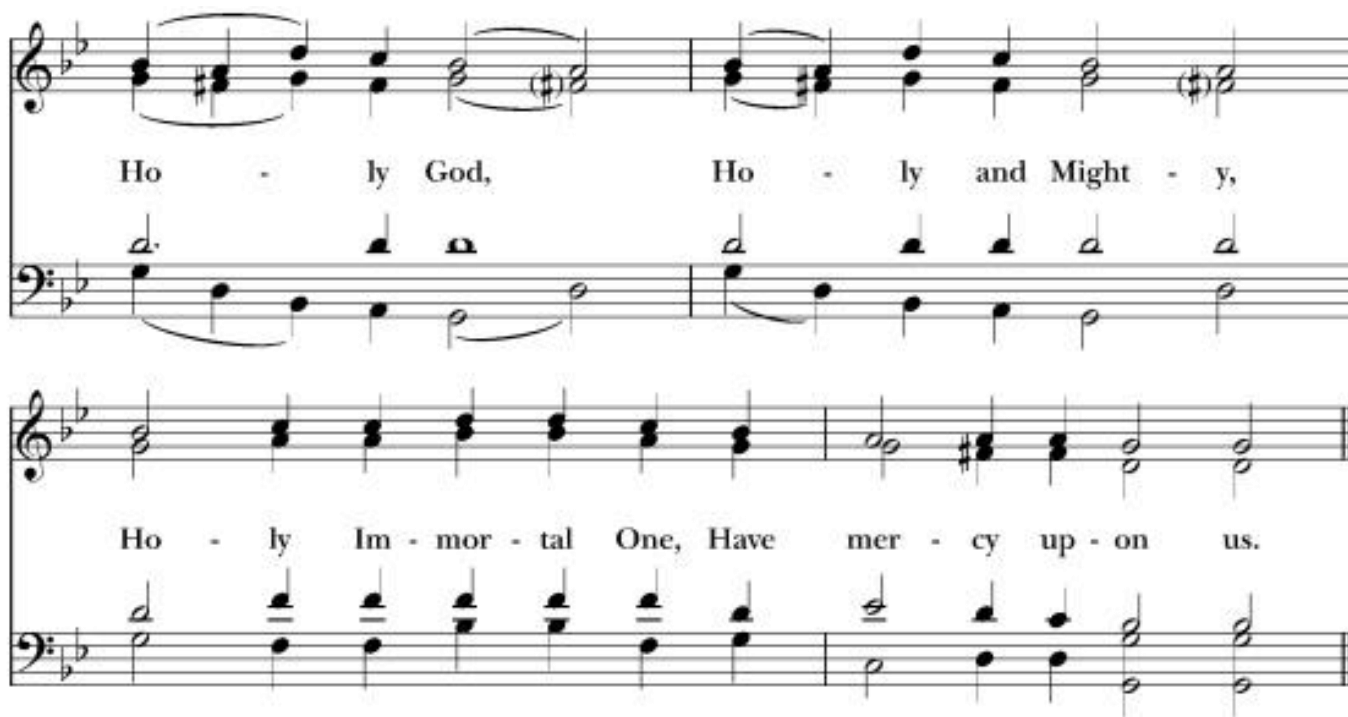
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.



A - men.

TRISAGION S 102

Sung once by choir alone and twice by all



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

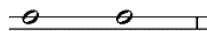
Setting: *Ver. Hymnal* 1982, after *Alexander Archangelsky* (1846–1924)

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY



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

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



A - men.

The people are seated for the reading of the lessons from sacred scripture.

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25: 1–9

Tone VII 7

Ad te, Domine, levavi

The Psalm is sung by the choir.

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
 - 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
 - 3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
 - 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
 - 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
 - 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
 - 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
 - 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
 - 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.
-

THE SECOND LESSON

First Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

(All stand as able.)

GOSPEL PROCESSION

HYMN 454

Jesus came, adored by angels

Lowry

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

(Please be seated for the homily.)

THE HOMILY

A few moments of silence for reflection follow the homily.

HOLY BAPTISM

THE PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATE

- Celebrant* The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.
- Parents & Godparents* We present McLean Cruz Redford to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
- Celebrant* Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?
- Parents & Godparents* I will, with God's help.
- Celebrant* Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?
- Parents & Godparents* I will, with God's help.
- Celebrant* Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
- Parents & Godparents* I renounce them.
- Celebrant* Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
- Parents & Godparents* I renounce them.
- Celebrant* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
- Parents & Godparents* I renounce them.
- Celebrant* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
- Parents & Godparents* I do.
- Celebrant* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
- Parents & Godparents* I do.
- Celebrant* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
- Parents & Godparents* I do.
- Celebrant* Will all of you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in their life in Christ?
- People* **We will.**
- Celebrant* Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?
People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread
and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return
to the Lord?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of
every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for this child who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions:

Leader Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open her hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

McLean Cruz, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying

McLean Cruz, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate saying

Celebrant Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People exchange a sign of peace.

WELCOME & PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUS S 127

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, — hea - ven and earth are full of your
glo - ry. 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. —

Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938–1984)

(The people kneel or stand.)

The Celebrant continues the prayer, recalling God's activity in our salvation history, the institution of the Lord's Supper, and inviting the people to join in saying,

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues invoking the Spirit's present work, concluding the prayer and inviting the people to join in the doxology of the prayer, saying,

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

Celebrant People
A-men.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM S 374

After breaking the consecrated bread, the Celebrant says,

Sua bassa ———— Lamb of God, — you take a -
 way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.
 Lamb of God, — you take a - way the sins of the
 world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, —
 — you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938-1984).
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This setting may be sung full by all, or by the choir, or as a versicle and response.

MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

We welcome to communion all who have been baptized in any Christian tradition. To receive the sacrament, extend your hands so that the priest may place the bread in the palm of your outstretched hands. Gluten free wafers are available. For those who desire to receive the wine that follows, guide the chalice toward your lips to drink from the cup. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest as a sign to the priest. For those unable to receive the sacrament this day, we offer this prayer:

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, in thanksgiving for the promised gift of your resurrection, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

HYMN 640

Watchman, tell us of the night

Aberystwyth

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

The Celebrant and people say together,

**Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

*The Celebrant announces God's blessing and the people respond, **Amen.***

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 57 Lo! he comes with clouds descending

Helmsley

DISMISSAL

*The Celebrant proclaims the dismissal, and the people respond, **Thanks be to God.***

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege
Celebrant & Homilist

Jim Bungardner
Choirmaster/ Organist

Will Postlethwait
Crucifer

Ryan Postlethwait, Lindsey Postlethwait
Eucharistic Ministers

Amanda White, Roy McCraw, Greg Rhoads
Lectors



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

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Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9 am to 4 pm | Friday: 9 am-noon

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Holy Eucharist: 8 am | Christian Formation: 9 am | Holy Eucharist: 10:10 am

MIDWEEK SERVICES

Monday – Friday Morning Prayer: 8:30 am | Wednesday Holy Eucharist: Noon

PARISH STAFF

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege | Rector
The Reverend Samuel V. Tallman | Assisting Clergy
The Right Reverend J. Gary Gloster | Assisting Clergy
Dr. James Bumgardner | Organist/Choirmaster
Lindsey Herring | Director of Christian Formation & Communications
Michael Marshall | Director of Administration & Finance
Bill Devereux | Director of Hospitality & Facilities
Michelle Curry | Verger

For pastoral emergencies, contact The Reverend Andrew J. Hege at:
Office: (828) 295-7323 | Cell: (336) 848-4052 | rector@stmaryofthehills.org

VESTRY

2024: Leslie Billingsley | Joe Doswell | Buddy Fore
2025: Mike Austell, Sr. Warden | Michelle Curry | Burt Mulford | Sue Sweeting
2026: Marshall Culp, Jr. Warden | Lynn Searfoss | Jim Snow | Jill Storelli
Amanda White, Treasurer | Elizabeth Sudderth, Clerk