



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

**ADVENT IV
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II
10:10 AM
DEC. 22, 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 56 (OMIT VS 4-6)

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

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

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first system contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,'. The second system contains the lyrics 'Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.'.

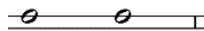
Setting: *Ver. Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846–1924)

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY



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

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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

Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
 one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
 from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
 when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
 to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
 in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
 to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80:1-7

Tone

Qui regis Israel

The Canticle is sung by the choir.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
 - 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
 - 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
 - 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
 - 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
 - 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
 - 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
-

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

(All stand as able.)

GOSPEL PROCESSION HYMN 265 The angel Gabriel from heaven came *Gabriel's Message*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

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.

(All stand as able.)

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 385, Form II

(All stand as able.)

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world;
for our Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.
Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The celebrant concludes the prayers with a collect.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

from *Enriching Our Worship*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**God of all mercy,
We confess that we have sinned against you,
Opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
In ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
The evil we have done,
And the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
Through our Savior Jesus Christ,
That we may abide in your love
And serve only your will. Amen.**

*The Celebrant pronounces the absolution, and the people respond, **Amen.***

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM—*Rejoice in the Lord alway*

anon 16th century

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say rejoice.
Let your softness be known unto all men: the Lord is even at hand.
Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication,
let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks.
And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding
keep your hearts and minds, through Christ Jesu. Amen.

(All stand as able when Elements are presented at the Altar by the ushers.)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I From *Enriching Our Worship*

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks all holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Contemporary)*

BCP 364

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: LAMB OF GOD AGNUS DEI

After breaking the consecrated bread, the Celebrant and the People sing,

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)

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 54

Savior of the nations, come!

Nunn komm, der Heiden Heiland

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 66

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Stuttgart

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

James Bumgardner
Choirmaster/Organist

Will Postlethwait
Crucifer

Lindsey Postlethwait, Ryan Postlethwait, Roy McCraw
Eucharistic Minister

Luba Skibo, Cobb Milner, Mike Austell
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