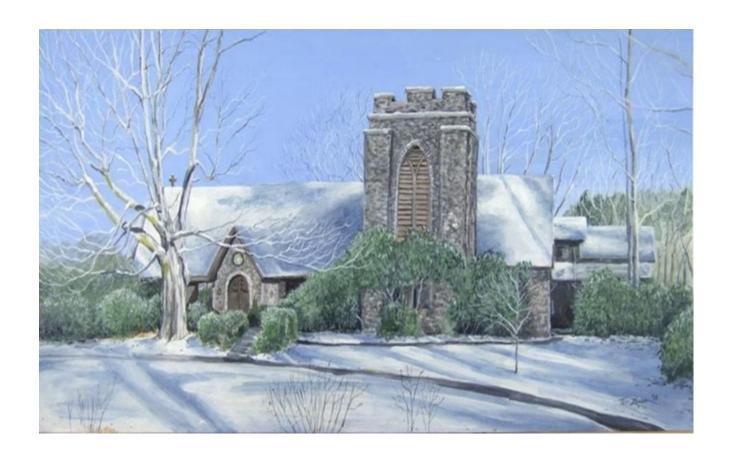
# St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY 10:10 AM Feb. 16, 2025

## 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

## WELCOME & PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE WORD OF GOD

(All stand as able.)

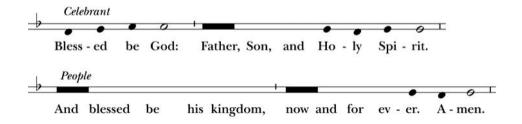
#### Processional Hymn 423

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

St. Denio

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355



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.





## THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY



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

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

A - men.

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

## THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse--who can understand it?

I the LORD test the mind and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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

Chant: Gerre Hancock

The Psalm is sung by the choir.

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \* nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, \* and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \* everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; \* they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \* nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, \* but the way of the wicked is doomed.

#### THE SECOND LESSON

First Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN 656 Blest are the pure in heart

Franconia

#### THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6:17-26

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets."

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

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

#### THE HOMILY

A few moments of silence for reflection follow the homily.

(Please be seated for the homily.)

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

The intercessor invites the assembly to join in praying for the Church and the world.

From the rising of the sun to its setting, let us pray to the Lord, saying, 'Lord, hear our prayer.'

That the people of God in all the world may worship in spirit and in truth, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the Church may discover again that unity which is the Father's will, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the nations of the earth may seek after the ways that make for peace, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the whole creation, groaning in travail, may be set free to enjoy the glorious liberty of the children of God,

let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all who with Christ have entered the shadow of death may rest in peace and rise in glory, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us commend the world, to which Christ showed the way, and all who have entrusted themselves to our prayers, to the mercy and protection of God.

The people add their own petitions, silently or aloud.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect and the people respond, Amen.

#### **CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION**

The Celebrant bids the Confession. Silence may be kept.

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.

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.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE OFFERTORY

Cantor: The right hand of the Lord hath the preeminence;

Tone II

the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to pass:

Choir: I shall not die but live, and declare the works of the Lord

## **HYMN**—O for a thousand tongues

James Bumgardner (b. 1963)

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim and spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy Name.

Jesus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease; 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He speaks; and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive, the mournful broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

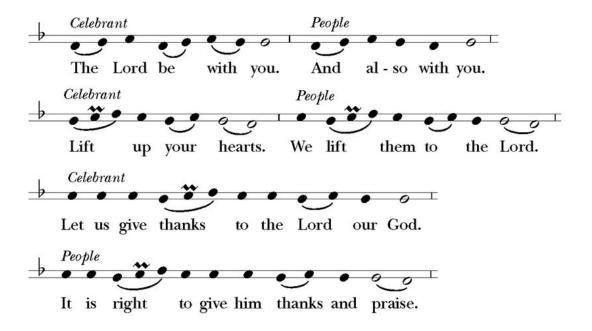
Hear him, ye deaf; ye voiceless ones, your loosened tongues employ; ye blind, behold, your Savior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

Glory to God and praise and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heav'n.

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

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer B)

BCP 367



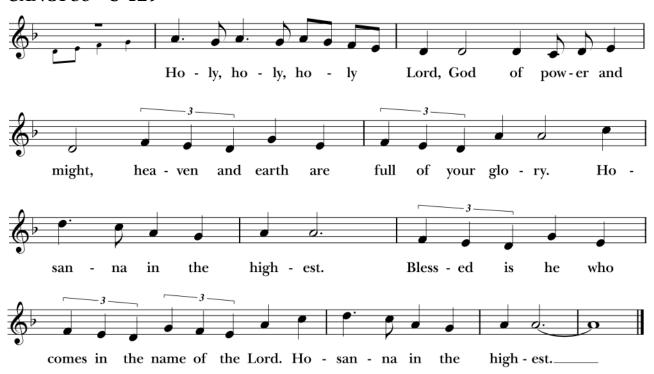
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues the prayer and concludes the preface, saying,

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

#### SANCTUS S 129



(The people stand or kneel.)

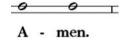
The Celebrant continues the prayer, recalling God's activity in our salvation history, the institution of the Lord's Supper, and inviting the people to join in saying,

Therefore, according to his command, O Father: *Celebrant and People* 

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.

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,

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



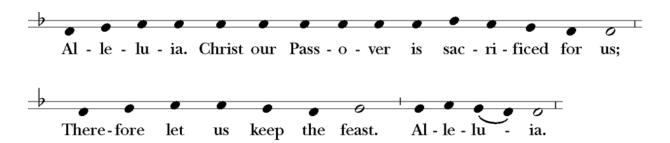
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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 152

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



#### THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

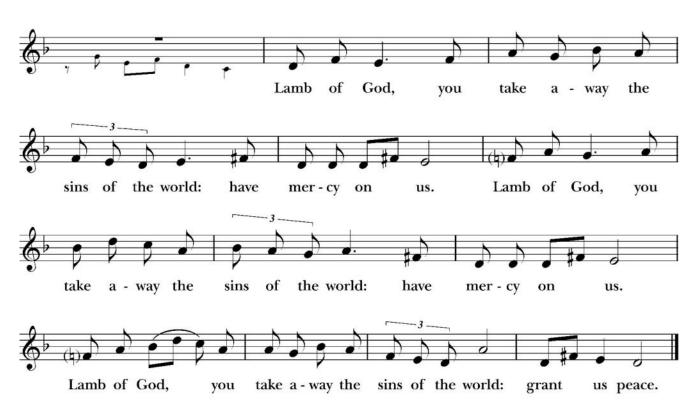
We welcome to communion all who have been baptized in any Christian tradition. To receive the sacrament, extend your hands so that the priest may place the bread in the palm of your outstretched hands. Gluten free wafers are available. For those who desire to receive the wine that follows, guide the 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**.

## MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION (All join to sing.)

#### AGNUS DEI S 163



#### **POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

BCP 365

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.

#### THE BLESSING

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 296

We know that Christ is raised

Engelberg

#### THE DISMISSAL

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

#### ORGAN VOLUNTARY

The Ordinary of the Mass is set by Robert Powell (1932-2025).

# **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege Celebrant & Homilist

James Bumgardner Choirmaster/Organist

Thomas McNeil *Cantor* 

Renee' Lyons Crucifer

Darlene Van Dyke, Lindsey Herring, Renee' Lyons Lectors



# ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

P. O. Box 14 - 140 Chestnut Drive Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605-0014 www.stmaryofthehills.org | office@stmaryofthehills.org 828.295.7323

#### 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

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