

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 7, 2021

8:00AM

Worship in a Season of Pandemic

Guidelines and Directives *February 2021*

- + Attendance at any indoor service is limited to 25 individuals total (including the celebrant and any other staff), as directed by the Bishop of Western North Carolina's directives (January 28, 2021).
- + Prior to arrival, all attending should perform a self-check of symptoms and temperature. Anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, who might have been in contact with someone who has the virus, or who is experiencing a temperature higher than 100.0 (F), should not attend. Additionally, individuals who are at high-risk, or share their home with someone at high-risk, should consider carefully whether or not to attend any public service at this time.
- + Enter through the Chestnut Street door; masks, hand sanitizer, and additional instructions for seating will be provided in the Foyer. Exit through the Main Street door. Only the Church will be accessible; the office area, parish hall, etc., including restrooms, will be closed.
- + All in attendance must wear a facial mask, that covers both mouth and nose completely, at all times. Children under the age of two are exempted from this requirement (per CDC guidelines). Please bring your own mask; if you do not have a mask, one will be provided.
- + A minimum of six feet of physical distance must be maintained at all times by individuals who do not share the same household. Pews are marked to ensure appropriate distancing is maintained between households.
- + Bulletins will be placed in the Foyer prior to the service and should be deposited in the recycling bin upon leaving the service or taken home.
- + If singing takes place in the service, all singers must be masked, at least 10 feet from one another and a distance of at least 25 feet from the congregation will be maintained at all times. Windows will be opened for additional ventilation.
- + The Peace may be exchanged only through gestures that do not require movement or touching those outside one's own household. Waving or bowing to one another are most appropriate.
- + The celebrant will administer communion in the aisle using pincers (tongs) to prevent close contact. An acolyte or usher will direct movement of each pew. Please receive the consecrated host in the hand and return to your pew before removing masks to consume the bread.
- + Each pew should exit the Church one at a time at the conclusion of the liturgy, allowing those closest should exit first. For the safety of the whole community, please do not linger in the Church following the service.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

8:00 AM

*A prayerful silence precedes the service.
The bells ring the hour.*

THE WORD OF GOD

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION & SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **His mercy endures forever.**

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 79

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 Officiant pronounces the absolution and the people respond, Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 20: 1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

The Psalm is said responsively by whole verse.

Psalm 19
Caeli enarrant

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 **One day tells its tale to another, ***
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 **Their sound has gone out into all lands, ***
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens**
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 **The statutes of the Lord are just**
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

- 10 **More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.**
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 **Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 2: 13-22

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

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege

A few moments of silence for reflection follow 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

from *Common Worship*

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In penitence and faith let us make our prayer to the Father and ask for his mercy and grace.

For your holy people, that they may triumph over evil and grow in grace, we pray to you, O
Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the leaders of the nations, that you will guide them in the ways of mercy and truth, we pray to you, O Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the needy, that they may not be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor be taken away, we pray to you, O Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the sick in body, mind and spirit, that they may know your power to heal, we pray to you, O Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor in spirit, that they may inherit the kingdom of heaven and see you face to face, we pray to you, O Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have died, that they may share with you in your eternal kingdom, we pray to you, O Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us commend the world, for which Christ suffered, to the mercy and protection of God.

The people add their own petitions. The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Contemporary)

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

After breaking the consecrated bread, the Celebrant says,

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **grant us peace.**

MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be served from the aisle, at the bottom of the chancel steps; follow the directions of the acolyte to come forward, one pew at a time, maintaining safe distance from one another. 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. The celebrant will use pincers (tongs) to administer communion to prevent close contact. Please receive the consecrated host in your hand and return to your seat before removing masks to consume the bread. Communion will be administered in one kind, bread, only. Anglican teaching has long upheld that receiving communion in one kind (only bread or only wine) is to have received the sacrament in its entirety. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest as a sign to the priest.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

The Celebrant and people say together,

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant offers a blessing over the assembly, and the people respond, Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please Pray for the Following in Your Daily Prayers

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, José our Bishop, Andrew our rector, Sam and Gary our assisting clergy, for our Vestry and staff, for all bishops and ministers, and for all God's people throughout the world.

For Joseph, our President, Roy, our Governor, those who hold elected office, and all those in positions of public trust.

For all medical personnel and all ministering to the needs of those affected by COVID-19.

For healing: Alex, Lora, Glenn, Ray, John, Doug, Fred, Debbie B., Jon Gates family, Don, Whitley family, June Rose, Graeme, Pat, Thomas Sherwood, James S., Dean Hamric, Lisa Kaufmann, Claudia Clark, Bill Elder, Jr., Terry, Mary Ellen Raulerson, Oliver and Elizabeth

****(Please note that the names on this list will remain for four weeks, unless the office is notified that the person(s) needs to remain on the list for a longer period of time.)****

For those who have died: Judy, Steve, Michele, Betty Blackburn, Jason Whitley, Cynthia, Rick, Susan Helsabeck, Blaine Smith, Bill C.

For safe pregnancy and delivery for: Caroline, Anna, Kristen, Amanda, Claire, Kimmi

For those celebrating birthdays this week:

3/07 Suzanne Miller

3/08 Iris Caldwell, Anne Jones

3/09 Buddy Fore

3/10 Mike Austell, Kitty Norris

3/12 Alice Holt, Jim Shaut

3/13 Joyce Gibson, Tim Silver

For those celebrating anniversaries this week:

3/10 Jim and Kay Snow

3/11 Robert Kling and Tom Veale

Parish Prayer Cycle:

3/07 Elizabeth Sudderth

3/08 Megan Sweeting, Dex

3/09 Sue Sweeting

3/10 Miles and Clare Tager

3/11 Sam Tallman and Mike Zuravel

3/12 Bill and Cynthia Tessien, Genya, Billy, Tommy

3/13 John and Christine Thacker

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Rector's Forum – We continue a Lenten series entitled, “A Spring in the Desert,” based upon the book by Bishop Frank and Victoria Logue. Join us this morning as we consider sacred stories, ancient teachings, and images of creation from the desert. All are welcome! We gather at 9:00AM via Zoom each Sunday morning – Click [HERE](#) to join the meeting (password: forum).

In-Person Worship continues – Beginning Wednesday, March 20, Holy Eucharist will be offered on Wednesdays at 12:00PM, in addition to **8:00AM** (without music) and **11:00AM** (with music, live-streamed), each Sunday. Masks, social distancing, and pre-registration are *required* and the Church will receive a thorough cleaning between services.

Registration for all services will open one week before its scheduled day, at 12:00PM, via Eventbrite. Links will be available on our parish website – [HERE](#).

Opportunities to serve, either as an Acolyte/Lector or a Greeter/Usher, are available. Learn more and sign-up – [HERE](#).

Church Open for Prayer – The Church will be open for individual, private prayer during regular office hours (9-5 Monday-Thursday, 9-5 Friday). If a service is scheduled during the week, the Church will close one hour prior and remain closed for one hour following the service. Masks and social distancing are required at all times in the building and the front door will be the only entry available to access the Church.

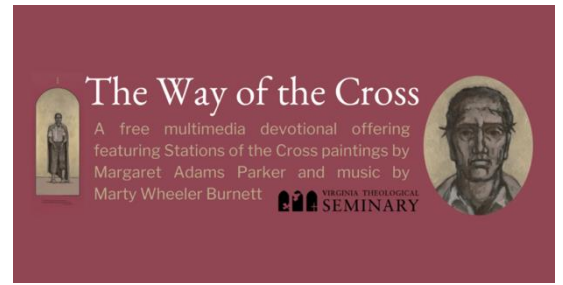
The Parish Office remains open to parishioners and visitors, by appointment only. Please contact a member of the staff via phone or e-mail before coming to the Church.

St. Mary of the Hills on YouTube – Did you know that all services are available for streaming and are also archived on YouTube? Visit our channel – [HERE](#) - and don't forget to subscribe.

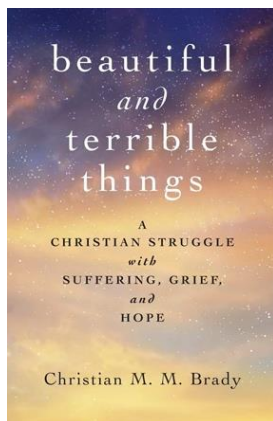


Easter Flowers and Music Program Donations-In a few short weeks, our worship space will be decorated with flowers to usher in the Easter season. For many, it is a tradition to make a gift toward flowers or to our music program in honor or memory of a loved one, to be acknowledged in the Easter bulletins. If you would like to do so, please complete the form below no later than March 28th. You may mail your donation to the church at PO Box 14, Blowing Rock, NC 28605 or you may click on this link: [HERE](#)

Stations of the Cross - Virginia Theological Seminary is pleased to offer a video version of The Way of the Cross and a reflection guide. Through scripture, art, and music, the video invites us to walk with Christians of every generation on a virtual pilgrimage, meditating on our Lord's passion and death. Many people choose to make the Way of the Cross a part of their devotions during the season of Lent and the Stations are especially appropriate to be prayed on Fridays. The video is available to be prayed at any time and can be accessed by click on the image above. Reflection guides are available on our parish website's [Lent 2021 page](#).



Psalms: Hebrew Expressions of Faith & Hope - Fr. Sam Tallman is offering a Zoom discussion group engaging four familiar Psalms interpreted through the Jewish tradition. There is great power to be found in the ancient Jewish witness of faith for this COVID-time, for our Lenten journey, and for discerning a “new normal” to emerge out of this pandemic. The four sessions will be on Mondays, 3:30-4:45. E-mail Fr. Sam (sam@stmaryofthehills.org) for more information



Lenten Reading 2021 – *It's not too late to join!* Throughout the season of Lent, Fr. Andrew will be offering reflections and leading discussion on the book, *Beautiful and Terrible Things: A Christian Struggle with Suffering, Grief and Hope*. Written by the Reverend Christian Brady, Ph.D., an Episcopal priest and biblical scholar whose research has focused on the Old Testament book of Lamentations, the book is a personal, biblical, and theological struggle with the reality of suffering, pain, and loss. A limited number of books are available from the parish office for \$10. The book is also available online from a variety of booksellers. Study groups will be offered on Wednesday evenings, 5:30-6:30PM, and Thursday afternoons, 12:00-1:00PM, beginning this week. E-mail Fr. Andrew (rector@stmaryofthehills.org) to be added to the e-mail list.

Altar Guild - Participation on the Altar Guild is a beautiful, quiet and behind -the-scenes ministry which serves our parish in a vital way. Members prepare the altar prior to each service which includes the 8am and 11:00am services on Sundays and at 12:00 noon on Wednesdays, as well as any other special services, such as weddings and funerals.

To learn more or volunteer, please contact Sue Sweeting at: Sweetingsue75@yahoo.com.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROUS SUPPORT
OF ST. MARY OF THE HILLS!**

Your financial contributions enable this mission and ministry of this parish to continue.

Gifts may be received online at <https://www.stmaryofthehills.org/donate>
or via mail (P.O. Box 14, Blowing Rock, NC 28607).

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PARISH STAFF

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege	Rector
The Reverend Samuel V. Tallman	Priest Associate
The Right Reverend J. Gary Gloster	Assisting Clergy
Dr. James Bumgardner	Organist/Choirmaster
Greta Wilson	Parish Administrator
Joe Raulerson	Financial Secretary
Bill Stroh	Sexton
Caleb Brigman, Emme Hooks, Kathryn Santiago, Jacob Smith	Choral Scholars
Megan Redford, Alex Scheurer, Chloe Shaut	Nursery Assistants

THE VESTRY

2021	2022	2023
Sterling Hutcheson	Doug Galke, Jr. Warden	Marjory Holder
Gigi Poole	Lisa Kaufman	Faith Jones
E.B. Springs	Roy McCraw	Chip Monroe
Jim West	Tim Silver, Sr. Warden	Patty Patella
	Amanda White, Treasurer	
	Elizabeth Sudderth, Clerk	

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St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church

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