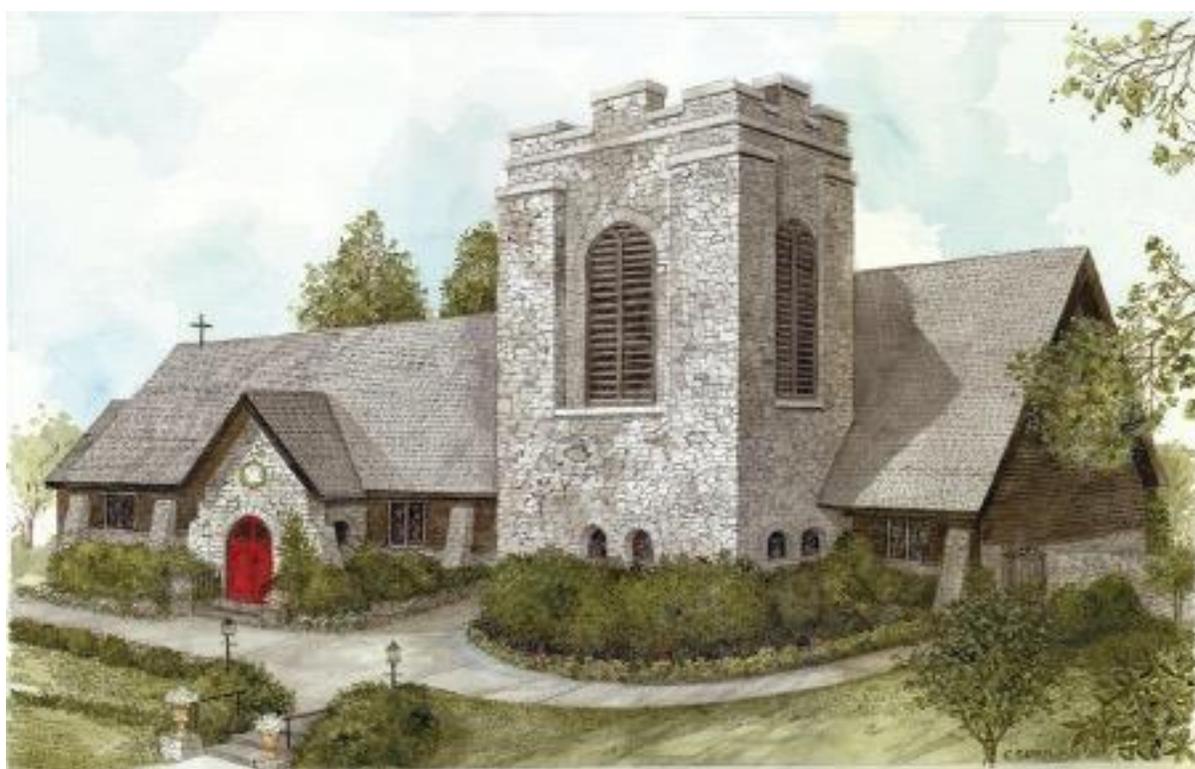


ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
APRIL 18, 2021

8:00AM

Worship in a Season of Pandemic

Guidelines and Directives

April 2021

For everyone's safety, all in attendance for worship at St. Mary of the Hills must covenant to the following guidelines and directives:

+ Attendance at any indoor service is limited to thirty percent of total capacity (six feet of social distancing can be maintained), as directed by the Bishop of Western North Carolina's directives (March 20, 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.

+ 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.

+ 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.

+ If singing takes place in the service, all singers must be masked for the entire service, including while singing. 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. Please come forward, one pew at a time, to 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 WORD OF GOD

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant says the Collect for Purity and the people respond, Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

The Psalm is said responsively by verse.

Psalm 4

Cum invocarem

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- 2 **"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?"**

- 3 Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.
- 4 **Tremble, then, and do not sin; ***
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.
- 5 Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the LORD.
- 6 **Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" ***
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
- 8 **I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; ***
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

THE SECOND LESSON

First John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

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

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy

they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

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

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Richard C. Lawler

A few moments of silence for reflection follow the homily.

THE NICENE CREED

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 joy and hope let us pray to our God.

A period of silence follows.

That our risen Saviour may fill us and the whole Church with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection.

we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter.

we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love.

we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter.

we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world.

we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them in their affliction.

we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day.

we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection.

we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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.

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,

Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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

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,

**God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

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

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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: Cris, Susie, Gary, Amy Anderson, the Anderson family, Greg Puhl, Pat, Richard, Ray Williams, Michael Silverman, Alex, Lora, Glenn, John, Doug, Fred, June Rose, Graeme, Thomas Sherwood, James S., Dean Hamric, Lisa Kaufmann, Bill Elder, Jr., Terry

****(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 traveling this week: Patty and Carmen Patella

In thanksgiving for the birth of: David Alexander Hege, son of Andrew and Amanda Hege, and Andrew Bullard MacMartin, grandson of Bill and Jorgann Rogers, and Marcus Vincent Courtney, III, son of Marcus and Claire Courtney

For those who have died: Mallory Goewey, The Rev. Jack Smith, Nancy, Kelly Coston, Jayne

For safe pregnancy and delivery for: Caroline, Anna

For those celebrating birthdays this week:

4/18 Megan Sweeting

4/20 Michael Silverman, Butch Kerns

4/21 Cindy Milner

4/22 James Allen

4/23 John Fitzgibbon

4/24 Sebastien Branstrom

For those celebrating an anniversary this week:

4/18 Chuck and Kathy Canady, Chris and Katherine Metzger

Parish Prayer Cycle:

4/18 Bill Battaglia

4/19 Sharon Battaglia

4/20 Zachary and Julia Bennett

4/21 Leslie Billingsley and Mitch Mitchell

4/22 Richard Bird

4/23 Natalie Bovino and Ken Johnson, Lula

4/24 Nioucha Branstrom, Isabelle, Sebastien

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers: The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the birth of David Alexander Hege, born April 14th, by Amanda, Andrew and Eleanor Hege and in thanksgiving for the birth of Andrew Bullard MacMartin, born April 14th, by his grandparents, Jorgann and Bill Rogers

In-Person Worship continues – 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. Registration for Sunday services of in-person worship will open on the Monday prior to the service, at 12:00PM, via Eventbrite. Links will be available on our parish website – [HERE](#). Masks, social distancing, and pre-registration are *required* and the Church will receive a thorough cleaning between services.

Church Open for Prayer – The Church will be open for individual, private prayer during regular office hours (9-5 Monday-Thursday, 9-12 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.

SAVE THE DATE! Our Parish Clean-Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 8th from 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm. Register to join us for either the morning or the afternoon shifts [- HERE](#). We will clean out the beds around the church and spread mulch. Please wear your work clothes and bring gloves. We also need wheelbarrows and rakes. Masks and social distancing are required at all times.

Altar Guild Volunteers - Altar guild members are looking for help preparing for and cleaning up after the 12 o'clock communion service on two Wednesdays each month. We are losing 2 members, one to a relocation and the other to retirement. If you can help summer, winter or full-time, please contact Sue Sweeting - sweetingsue75@yahoo.com or 828-406-9376. Thanks!



Flower Offering Opportunities – Is there an important person or a significant event happening in your life? Sponsoring the flowers placed at the altar each week is a great way to offer thanks for life's many gifts. Many dates are available for 2021. Please contact Greta Wilson, parish administrator, for more information and available dates.



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

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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