

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
10:10 AM
SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

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.

Children in Worship is offered for elementary age children during the service. Children are invited to follow the cross in procession during the *Gloria in excelsis* and will return at the Peace.

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.

The Hymns and Service Music are sung by all.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

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.

HYMN 376

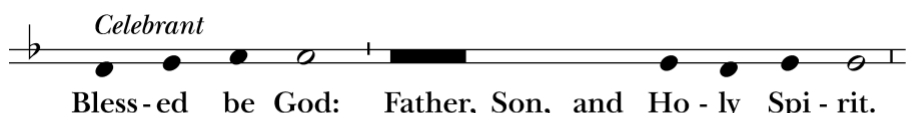
Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

Hymn to Joy

THE OPENING ACCLIMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

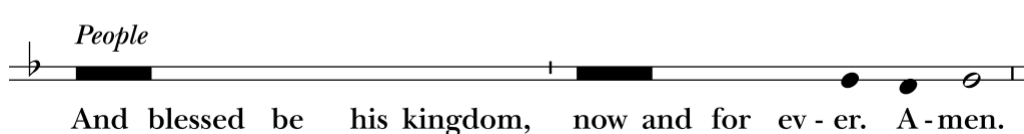
BCP 355

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

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.

Children in Worship is offered for elementary age children during the service. Children are invited to follow the cross in procession during the Gloria in excelsis and will return at the Peace.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther:
re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,
with the Ho - ly Spir - it, In the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features various musical notations including eighth, quarter, and half notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line after the final 'A - men'.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY



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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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

Ezekiel 33: 7-11

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 119: 33-40

Tone VII.7

The Psalm is sung by the Choir.

Legem pone

33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.

34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *
I shall keep it with all my heart.

35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
for that is my desire.

36 Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.

37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.

38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.

39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.

40 Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 13: 8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

All stand to sing as able.

HYMN 610

Lord, whose love through humble service

Blaenhafren

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18: 15-20

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

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about

anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Plenty Good Room

Celebrant Jesus said, “In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.” Trusting in God’s abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation.

Leader Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your church to be a place of welcome, hospitality, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission.

Lord, in your mercy.

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: God of community, you bind us together in relationships of care and compassion. Strengthen the bonds of affection within this congregation and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors near and far.

Lord, in your mercy.

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless our gifts of time, talent, and treasure may be faithful signs of our trust in you.

Lord, in your mercy.

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: God of creation, you have made a world with plenty good room for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy.

Lord, in your mercy.

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of need. Surround them with your healing and your peace.

Lord, in your mercy.

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace.

Lord, in your mercy.

People: *Hear our prayer.*

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

THE CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

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

ANTIPHON

I, Daniel, prayed unto the Lord

Tone II

HYMN 408

Sing praise to God, who reigns above

Mit Freuden zart

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer B*)

BCP 367

The musical notation is presented in four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you." and the People, with the lyrics "And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts." and the People, with the lyrics "We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals.

Celebrant
The Lord be with you.

People
And al - so 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.

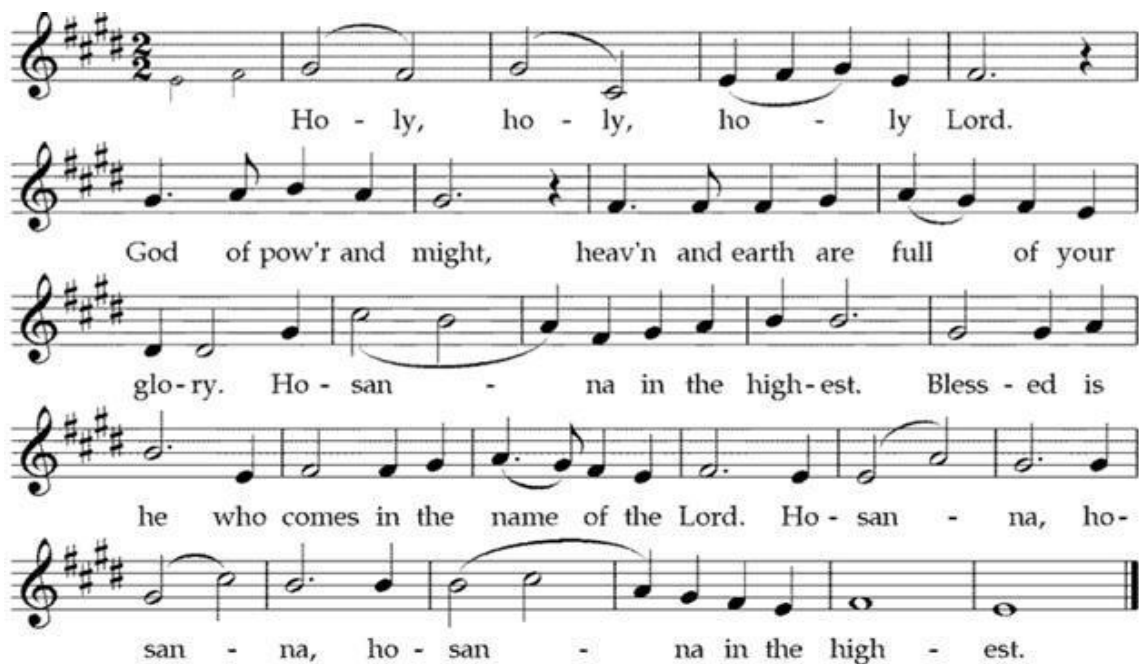
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues the prayer and concludes the preface, saying,

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.
God of pow'r and might, heav'n 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, ho -
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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:

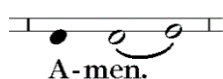
Celebrant and People

**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.

People



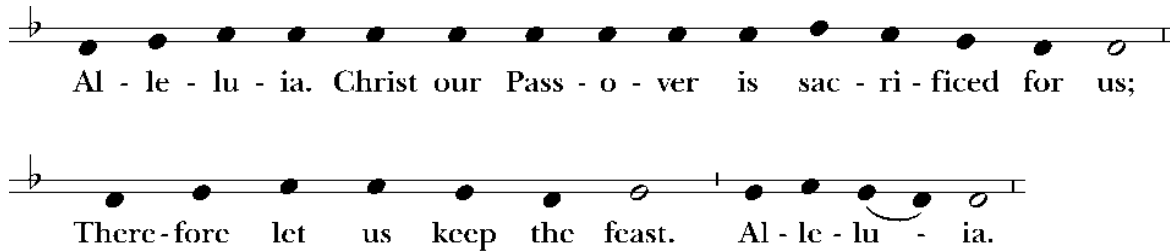
A-men.

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

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



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

The Choir sings the Antiphon. All sing Agnus Dei and Hymn.

ANTIPHON

Promise unto the Lord your God

Tone VII.7

AGNUS DEI

The musical score for the Agnus Dei is written for four parts: High Voices, Low Voices, and All Voices, with organ accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into five systems of music.

High Voices: The first system of music for the High Voices part, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps. The lyrics are "Lamb of God, you take a-way the".

Low Voices: The second system of music for the Low Voices part, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps. The lyrics are "sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of".

God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have

All Voices: The third system of music for the All Voices part, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps. The lyrics are "mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the".

sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

The Celebrant and people say together,

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.

HYMN 400

All creatures of our God and King

Lasst uns erfreuen

vv.1, 4, 5, 7

THE DISMISSAL

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

The setting of the Mass Ordinary (*Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei*) is *Mass in E* by Jeffrey Smith (b. 1960)

LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege
Celebrant & Homilist

Marc Longlois
Organist

Trey Stauffer
Cantor

Leslie Billingsley
Crucifer

Lynn Searfoss, Cecilia Grasinger
Eucharistic Ministers

Jim Snow, Lisa Kaufmann, Helene Harper
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

SUNDAYS

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

DURING THE WEEK

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

Dr. James Bumgardner | Director of Music & Choirmaster/Organist

Michael Marshall | Director of Administration & Finance

Bill Devereux | Director of Hospitality & Facilities

Dr. Lynn Searfoss | Director of Communications

Malia McAllister | Christian Formation Coordinator

Michelle Curry | Verger

For pastoral emergencies, contact The Reverend Andrew J. Hege at:

Office: (828) 295-7323 | rector@stmaryofthehills.org

VESTRY

2026: Jim Snow | Jill Storelli

2027: Bob Amos | Mike Matthews, Jr. Warden | Bob Rhoads | Luba Skibo

2028: Richard Murphy | Peter Purcell, Sr. Warden | Dale Marie Sandusky

Lynn Searfoss, Clerk
Amanda White, Treasurer