

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
10:10 AM
AUGUST 23, 2026

WELCOME!

We are 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 427

When morning guilds the skies

Laudes Domini

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.

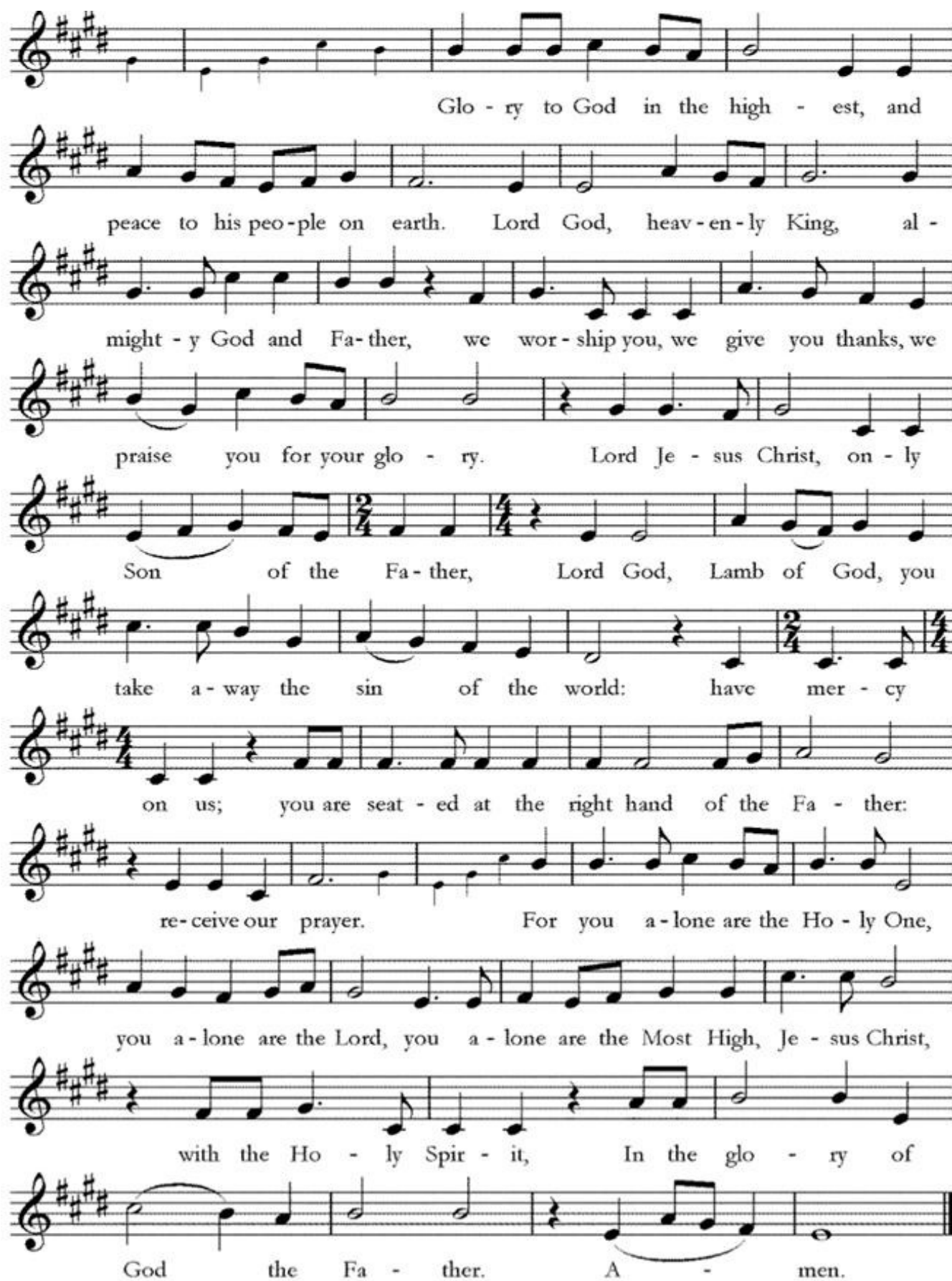
The Celebrant prays

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 a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. 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.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; 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

Isaiah 55: 1-5

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be for ever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER

Tune: William Crotch

The Psalm is sung by the Choir.

Psalm 138
Confitebor tibi

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your Name, *
because of your love and faithfulness;
- 3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.
- 4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.

5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.

7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.

8 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; *
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *
O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand to sing as able.

HYMN 254

You are the Christ, O Lord

Wyngate Canon

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 16: 13-20

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

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

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose

on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Samuel V. Tallman

A few moments of silence for reflection follow the homily.

HOLY BAPTISM

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

BCP 301

The celebrant says

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents respond

I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant

Will you, by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God’s help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in his life in Christ?

People We will.

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

BCP 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

BCP 305

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

N., I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying to each one

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Bishop or Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood. 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 Moses besought the Lord his God

Tone II

ANTHEM *Laudate Nomen Domini*

Christopher Tye (c. 1505-1573)

Praise the name of the Lord, you servants of the Lord;
from the rising of the sun to its setting.
The decrees of God are just, and delight the heart:
praise God, rulers and all people.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer B*) BCP 367

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant, the second for the People, the third for the Celebrant, and the fourth for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." (Staff 1), "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." (Staff 2), "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." (Staff 3), and "It is right to give him thanks and praise." (Staff 4).

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.

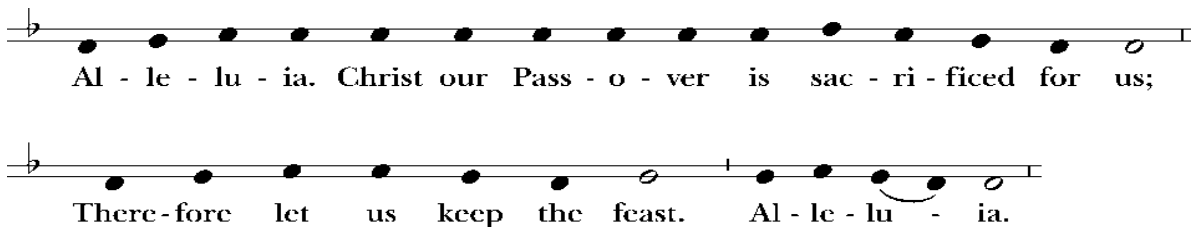
**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us**

**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 an Invitation to the Holy Table.

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 The earth, O Lord, is filled with the fruit of thy works

Tone I

AGNUS DEI

The musical score for the Agnus Dei is written for three parts: High Voices, Low Voices, and All Voices. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "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." The score includes a (Organ) part at the beginning.

HYMN 305

Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest

Rosedale

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.

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

The Reverend Samuel V. Tallman

Homilist

James Bumgardner

Choirmaster/Organist

Thomas McNeil

Cantor

Will Postlethwaite

Crucifer

Ryan Postlethwaite, Lindsey Postlethwaite

Eucharistic Ministers

Helene Harper, Trey Stauffer

Lectors



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

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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