

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
10:10 AM
JULY 26, 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 48

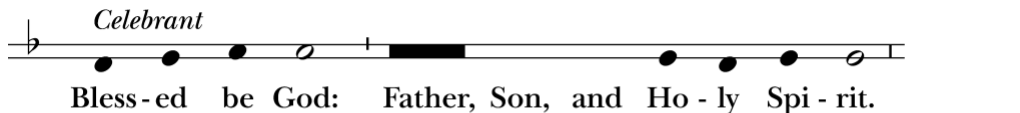
O day of radiant gladness

Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein

THE OPENING ACCLIMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

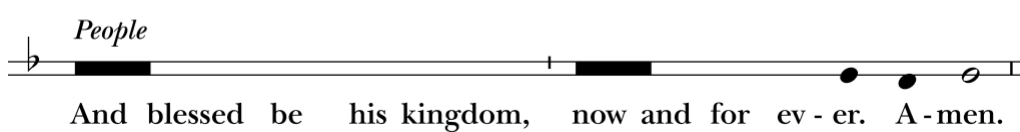
BCP 355

Celebrant



Bless - ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

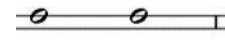
People



And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

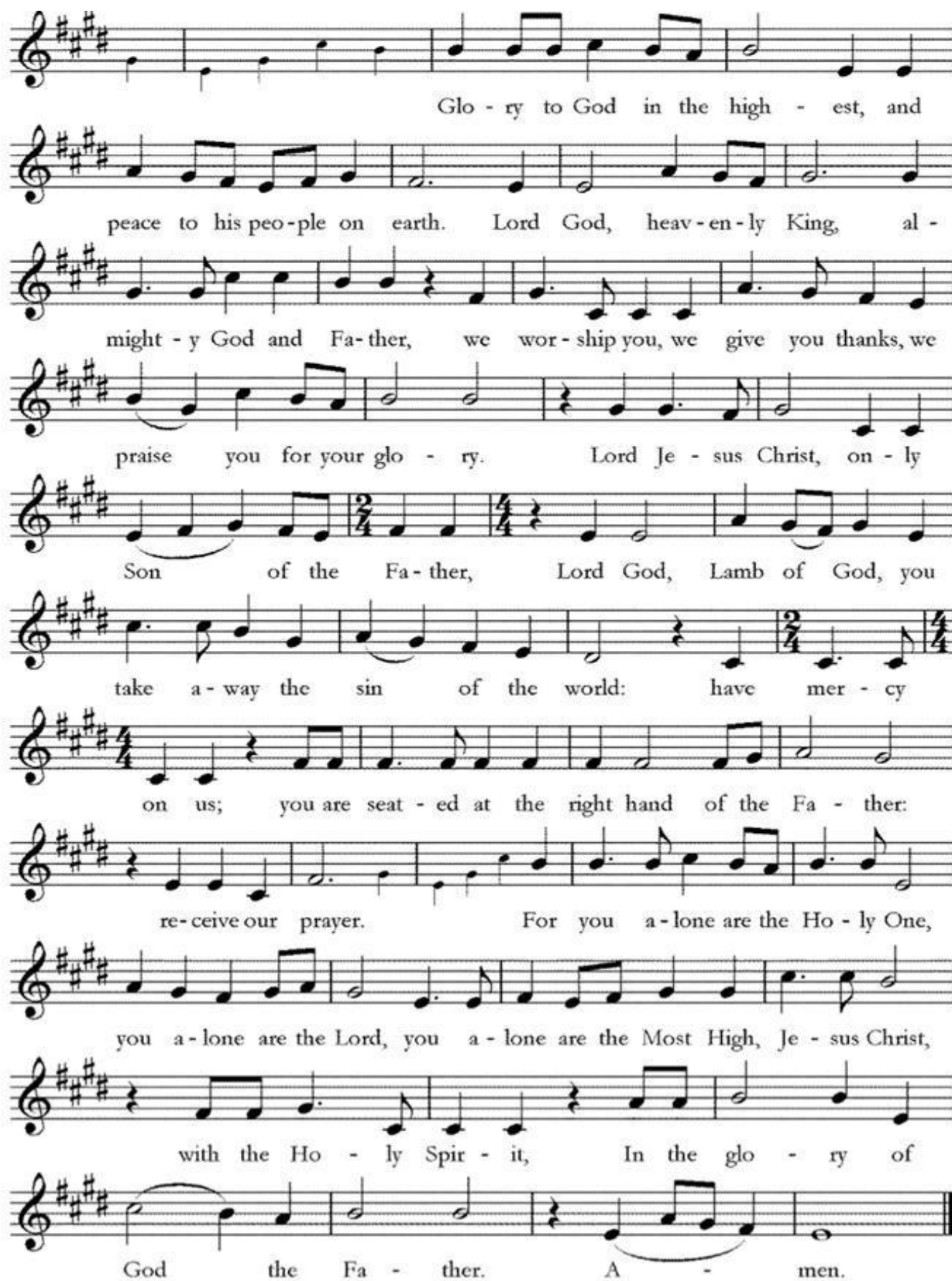
The Celebrant prays

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.

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 treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, as well as rests and bar lines. The tempo and meter are not explicitly stated, but the notation suggests a moderate, steady pace.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY



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

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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

I Kings 3: 5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?” It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

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

PSALM 119: 129-136

Mirabilia

Tune: Thalben-Ball

The Psalm is sung by the Choir.

¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰ When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.

¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
¹³² Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
¹³³ Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
¹³⁴ Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
¹³⁵ Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
¹³⁶ My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 8: 26-29

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

<i>Lector</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

(All stand to sing as able.)

HYMN 615

"Thy kingdom come!"

St. Flavian

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13: 31-33,44-52

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

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

Common Worship

The Leader and People pray responsively,

Let us pray for the Church and the world, responding, "Lord, hear our prayer."

For the unity of the Church in witness and proclamation of the Gospel...

Silence

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord hear our prayer.

For the peace and unity of all peoples and for the leaders of the nations...

Silence

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord hear our prayer.

For our places of work, education and leisure...

Silence

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord hear our prayer.

For a blessing on our homes; for our families and friends and all whom we love...

Silence

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord hear our prayer.

For the sick and suffering and all who minister to their needs ...

Silence

Let us pray to the Lord:

Lord hear our prayer.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed...

Silence

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

Silence

*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

Thou shalt save the people

Tone II

Anthem

I Sat Down

Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer B*)

BCP 367

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant, and the second is for the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant, and the fourth is for the People. The lyrics are as follows:

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.

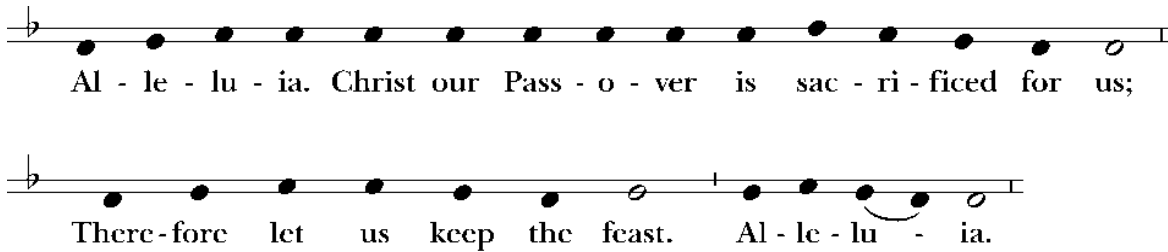
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us

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 Cantor 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

O taste and see

Tone I

AGNUS DEI

The musical score for the Agnus Dei is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff is for High Voices, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second staff is for Low Voices, also with a treble clef and one sharp. The third staff is for All Voices, with a treble clef and one sharp. The fourth staff is for All Voices, with a treble clef and one sharp. The fifth staff is for All Voices, with a treble clef and one sharp. 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."

High Voices

(Organ) Lamb of God, you take a-way the

Low Voices

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of

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

All Voices

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: grant us peace.

HYMN 635

If thou but trust in God

Wer nur den lieben Gott

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 665, vs. 1-3, 5

All my hope on God is founded

Michael

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)

*This Week's Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Gail
Albertson by Chris Albertson and Joe Coyne.*

LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege
Celebrant & Homilist

James Bumgardner
Choirmaster/Organist

Grayson Milhollin
Cantor

Valerie Purcell
Verger

Will Postlethwaite
Crucifer

Cynthia Tessien, Owene Courtney
Eucharistic Ministers

Leslie Billingsley, Jo Ann Hallmark, Lisa Kaufmann
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