

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020

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).

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



*If you've not yet made your pledge for 2021, we invite you to do so today.
You may submit your pledge online – [HERE](#).*

Credits and References

*Liturgical references are from the Book of Common Prayer (1979), The Hymnal 1982, and the Book of Occasional Services (2018)
**Biblical references are from the Holy Bible: New Revised Standard Version (1989)

MORNING PRAYER

RITE II

*Join the service via YouTube here –
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSIER6UDGf9FyTrPRGs8_1A*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE INTROIT

Matin Responsory – *I look from afar*

G.P. da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)

I look from afar: and lo, I see the pow'r of God coming,
and a cloud cov'ring the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?
High and low, rich and poor, one with another.
Go ye out to meet him and say:
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,
thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.
Tell us, are thou he that should come?
Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Watch , for you know not when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning; lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

Mark 13: 35, 36

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 Celebrant pronounces the absolution and the people respond, Amen.

THE INVITATORY

BCP 80

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Alleluia.

All say the Antiphon:

Our King and Savior now draws near: **Come, let us adore him.**

THE JUBILATE

BCP 81

Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; ***
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

**For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; ***
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

All repeat the Antiphon:

Our King and Savior now draws near: **Come, let us adore him.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 80:1-17, 16-18 *Qui regis Israel*

The Cantors sing the appointed portion of the Psalm.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

At the end of the Psalms is sung

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
 so that the mountains would quake at your presence--
 as when fire kindles brushwood
 and the fire causes water to boil--
 to make your name known to your adversaries,
 so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
 you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
 From ages past no one has heard,
 no ear has perceived,
 no eye has seen any God besides you,
 who works for those who wait for him.
 You meet those who gladly do right,
 those who remember you in your ways.
 But you were angry, and we sinned;
 because you hid yourself we transgressed.
 We have all become like one who is unclean,
 and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
 We all fade like a leaf,
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
 There is no one who calls on your name,
 or attempts to take hold of you;
 for you have hidden your face from us,
 and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
 Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;
 we are all the work of your hand.
 Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
 and do not remember iniquity forever.
 Now consider, we are all your people.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 11

BCP 87

Isaiah 60: 1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
 and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
 deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *

and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 25: 14-30

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege

A few moments of silence for reflection follow the homily.

Officiant and People together, all standing

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

**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.

**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. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us 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 forever. Amen.**

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Free intercessions may be offered.
The people add their own petitions and thanksgivings.
These may be shared with one another in the comment box on YouTube.*

The Officiant concludes the prayers with this collect,

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

HYMN 454

Lowry

Jesus came, adored by angels

Unison or harmony

1 Je - sus came, a - dored by an - gels, came with peace from
 2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy, when our hearts are
 3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, bring - ing news of
 4 Je - sus comes on clouds tri - um - phant, when the heavens shall

realms on high; Je - sus came for our re - demp - tion,
 bowed with care: Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
 sins for - given; Je - sus comes in sounds of glad - ness,
 pass a - way; Je - sus comes a - gain in glo - ry;

low - ly came on earth to die: Al - le - lu - ia,
 to our ear - nest heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia,
 lead - ing souls re - deemed to heaven; Al - le - lu - ia,
 let us then our hom - age pay: Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 al - le - lu - ia! comes to save us from de - spair.
 al - le - lu - ia! now the gate of death is riven.
 al - le - lu - ia! till the dawn of end - less day.

THE BLESSING

The Officiant pronounces God's blessing, and the people respond, Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

BCP 102

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

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

COFFEE MINUTE

Are you missing the opportunity to connect with
St. Mary's friends during Coffee Minute? We are too!

After worship, join us for an online Coffee Minute on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84753510585>
Password: coffee

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 Donald, our President, Joseph, our President-Elect, 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 all those affected by natural disaster, most especially those affected by hurricanes, fires, and floods.

For healing: Anna, Chantz, Ann Greene, Tom Veale, Kathy, Bill T., Tina, Blaine Smith, Bob Amos, Frank Thomas, Mills Poole, Pam Ayoub, Jim Ayoub, Eartha McKnight, Pat R., Gerry H., George Eden, Jo Barbre, Joe Dyer, McDonough family, Peter, Terry, Judy, Barbara Horton, Sherri

****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: Sonny Howard, Ginny Peterson, Barbara Collier, Wendy, Kilton B., Nick, Buck Bellmore, Rob Best, Mabel Jones

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

For those celebrating birthdays this week:

11/29 Adam Lemnouni
12/03 Mills Poole
12/04 John Williams
12/05 Dan Olson, Marta Moore

For those celebrating an anniversary this week:

12/02 Jim and Joyce Gibson

Parish Prayer Cycle:

11/29 Richard and Mallory Goewey
11/30 John and Cecilia Grasinger
12/01 Betty Green
12/02 Susie Greene
12/03 Shirley Guyton
12/04 Alex and JoAnn Hallmark
12/05 Dean Hamric and Burt Mulford

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rector's Forum – During the season of Advent, Fr. Andrew will offer reflections and invite conversation using the appointed Sunday Gospel texts and familiar hymns of the season. This Sunday the Gospel text is Mark 13: 24-27 and the hymn we'll consider is, "Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us'. We meet via Zoom each Sunday morning, 9:00-9:30AM. Use the link – [HERE](#) – to connect (password: forum) All are welcome!

Advent Heifer Fair (Online) - This year, in lieu of our annual in-person Advent Heifer Fair, we invite you to remember Heifer International as a part of your holiday shopping. A contribution to the work of Heifer International makes a great gift for friends and family. Learn more about the work of Heifer International by clicking the image of their logo above to visit their website. Wondering how much to give or how your dollars are used?

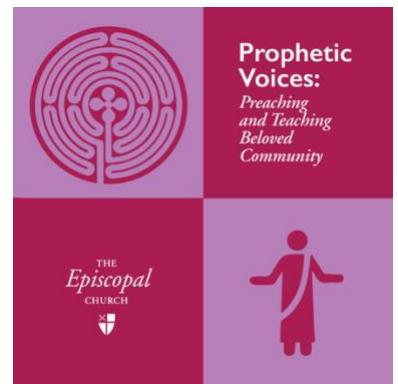


Check out Heifer's Shopping List - [HERE](#). To contribute, you may use our online giving portal - [HERE](#) - select 'Other' in the drop-down menu and type 'Heifer' in the text box. Alternatively, you may place a check in the mail, addressed to St. Mary of the Hills, with 'Heifer' in the memo line.



Journeying the Way of Love in Advent - For the season of Advent, Journeying the Way of Love offers four sessions to be explored as we await the coming of Christ by moving through the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke. Luke's gospel provides a pattern for understanding how we can live the Way of Love as individuals, as families and friends, as a community, and out in the world. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 5:30PM until 6:30PM, via Zoom. Contact Fr. Andrew (rector@stmaryofthehills.org) with any questions and to register to receive the Zoom log-in information.

Advent Prophetic Voices - Beginning Monday, November 30, and continuing for the following Mondays before Christmas, there will be a Zoom discussion group using the Episcopal Church podcast series, Prophetic Voices: Preaching & Teaching Beloved Community. Each week, the preparation expected will be a one-hour podcast available by computer, tablet, or phone that focuses on each Sunday's Old Testament & Gospel readings through the lens of social justice. The prophetic voices on the podcasts come from all over our church, voices from many perspectives that share our Christian values and our Anglican/Episcopal heritage. Each session, facilitated by a different St. Mary's parishioner, will engage the scripture readings of Advent with our time of needing to heal our deep divisions. Sessions will be from 3:30-4:45 and available by Zoom, whether in-person or asynchronously by recording. Please let Fr. Sam (sam@stmaryofthehills.org) know of your interest and especially whether you wish to participate by receiving the recording link each week.



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.



Responding to Natural Disaster – As hurricanes and fires continue to afflict many in our nation, please remember the work of Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD). ERD is an international relief and development agency and a compassionate response to human suffering on behalf of the Episcopal Church. As an organization, ERD continues to work diligently in response to the needs

of those affected by multiple natural disasters, including areas of the Gulf Coast Impacted by hurricanes and along the West Coast as communities confront the destruction of wildfires. Visit their website – [HERE](#) – to learn more and support our efforts

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

2020

Crawford Cleveland
Bill Furr
Jane Milner
Chip Myers, Sr. Warden

2021

Sterling Hutcheson
Gigi Poole
E.B. Springs
Jim West

2022

Doug Galke
Lisa Kaufmann
Roy McCraw
Tim Silver, Jr. Warden

Amanda White, Treasurer
Elizabeth Sudderth, Clerk

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St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church

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