

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 27, 2020

MORNING PRAYER

RITE II

Join the service via Zoom here –
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87804523261>

Join the service via YouTube here –
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSIER6UDGf9EyTrPRGs8_1A

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN 91

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light

Ermuntre dich

Break forth, O beau - teous heaven - ly light, and ush - er in the

morn - ing; O shep - herds, greet that glo - rious sight, our

Lord a crib a - dorn - ing. This child, this lit - tle

help - less boy, shall be our con - fi - dence and joy, the
power of Sa - tan break - ing, our peace e - ter - nal mak - ing.

Words: Johann Rist (1607-1667); ver. *Hymnal 1982* Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: *Ermuntre dich*, melody Johann Schop (d. 1665?), alt.; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy, which will come to all the people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10, 11

Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God.

Revelation 21:3

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:

Alleluia. To us a child is born: **O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.**

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:

Alleluia. To us a child is born: **O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 147: 13-21 *Laudate Dominum*

The Cantors sing the appointed portion of the Psalm.

- 13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
 praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
 he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; *
 he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
 and his word runs very swiftly.
- 17 He gives snow like wool; *
 he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
 who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
 he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
 his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

At the end of the Psalm 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.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

CANTICLE 16

BCP 92

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 SECOND LESSON

John 1: 1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

Te Deum Laudamus

You are God: we praise you;
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;
You are the eternal Father:
All creation worships you.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;
Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you became man to set us free
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

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, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of 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.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 Zoom or 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 82

Of the Father's love begotten

Divinum mysterium



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
 2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
 3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
 bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry



are, that have _____ been, and that fu - ture
 world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
 earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
 and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____

THE BLESSING

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

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

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)*

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

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).

All contributions must be received in the parish office or postmarked by December 31st to appear on 2020 giving statements. Contact Financial Secretary, Joe Raulerson (financial@stmaryofthehills.org) with any questions.

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 healing: Cole Silverman, Rob, Alice Holt, Ham, Bria McKnight, Bill C., Richard Miller, Erby Miller, Anna, Chantz, Ann Greene, Tom Veale, Kathy, Bill T., Tina, Blaine Smith, Bob Amos, Frank Thomas, Mills Poole, Pam Ayoub, Eartha McKnight, Pat R., Gerry H., George Eden, Jo Barbre, Joe Dyer, McDonough family, Peter, Terry, Judy, Barbara Horton, Sherri, Cris, Jennifer

****(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: Barbara Horton, Jim Ayoub, Georgia Day, Tom Dillard, Tae McAlpin

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

For those celebrating birthdays this week:

12/27 John Carlson

12/29 Ray Cameron

01/01 Shawn Poole

For those celebrating anniversaries this week:

12/29 Andrew and Amanda Hege

12/29 Mike and Gay Miller

Parish Prayer Cycle:

12/27 Larry and Faith Jones

12/28 Martha Jones

12/29 Roy and Nedra McCraw

12/30 Sam and Rhonda Ann McDonald

12/31 Paul and Loy McGill

01/01 Marg McKinney

01/02 Will Merrill and Andy Sicard

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Office Hours – The parish office will be closed this week as staff take post-Christmas vacation time. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, January 4th. If you have an urgent pastoral concern (serious illness/hospitalization/death in family/mental health crisis/arrest), please call Fr. Andrew Hege at 336.848.4052, leave a detailed message, and your call will be returned.

Rector's Forum – The Rector's Forum will take a break after Christmas and return on Sunday, January 10 at 9:00AM via Zoom.

Holy Eucharist on the Epiphany – A celebration of the Holy Eucharist will be livestreamed from St. Mary's on the Epiphany – Wednesday, January 6th at 6:00PM. Zoom log-in information will be shared via e-mail and the parish website.

LAST CALL - 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.



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.

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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