

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

AN ORDER OF SERVICE FOR NOONDAY

December 9, 2020 at 12:00 PM

Join the service via YouTube here –
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSIE6UDGf9FyTvPRGs8_1A

A prayerful silence precedes the service.

THE OPENING SENTENCE

BCP 103

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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 forever. Amen.**

Except in Lent, add **Alleluia.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 103: 1-10

The Officiant and People read responsively by whole verse, pausing at the asterisks.

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.

3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;

4 **He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**

5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

6 **The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.**

7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.

8 **The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.**

9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 **He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**

At the end of the Psalms is sung or said

**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

Matthew 11: 25-30

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

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

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege

A few moments of silence for reflection follow the homily.

Officiant Lord, have mercy.
People **Lord, have mercy.**
Officiant Christ, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Officiant Lord, have mercy.
People **Lord, have mercy.**

**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.**

Officiant Lord, hear our prayer.
People **And let our cry come to you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty Savior, who at noonday called your servant Saint Paul to be an apostle to the Gentiles: We pray you to illumine the world with the radiance of your glory, that all nations may come and worship you; for you live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Free intercessions may be offered.
The people add their own petitions and thanksgiving.
These may be shared with one another in the chat 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.**

THE DISMISSAL

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

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).

PLEDGE ONLINE

Complete your 2021 Pledge Card online – [HERE](#).

More information about stewardship, including previous week's reflections,
are available online at <https://www.stmaryofthehills.org/stewardship>

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