St. Mary of the Hills

Episcopal Church

Blowing Rock, North Carolina



The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026

10:10AM

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

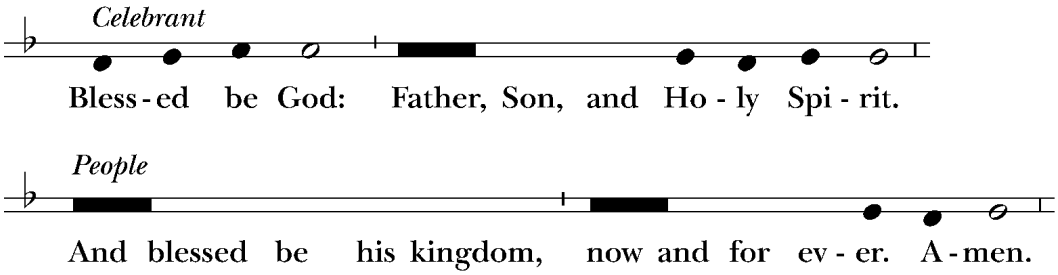
WELCOME & PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE WORD OF GOD

All stand as able.

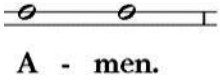
HYMN 53 Once he came in blessing *Gottes Sohn ist kommen*

THE OPENING ACCLIMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY BCP 355



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.



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



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY



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

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; 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

Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18

Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is at hand;

the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,

"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."

Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,

their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;

in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALTER Psalm 90: 1-8, 12

Tune: Ray F. Brown *The Psalm is sung by the Choir.* *Domine refugium*

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

THE SECOND LESSON I Thessalonians 5: 1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand to sing as able.

HYMN 721 Signs of ending all around us *Ton-y-Botel*

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25: 14-30

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

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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.

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 *Plenty Good Room*

Celebrant Jesus said, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." Trusting in God's abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation.

Leader Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your church to be a place of welcome, hospitality, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission. *Silence.*

Leader Lord, in your mercy.
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of community, you bind us together in relationships of care and compassion. Strengthen the bonds of affection within this congregation and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors near and far. *Silence.*

Leader Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless our gifts of time, talent, and treasure, that they may be faithful signs of our trust in you. *Silence.*

Leader Lord, in your mercy.
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader. God of creation, you have made a world with plenty good room for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy. *Silence.*

Leader Lord, in your mercy.
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of need. Surround them with your healing and your peace. *Silence.*

Leader Lord, in your mercy.
People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace. *Silence.*

Leader Lord, in your mercy.
People **Hear our prayer.**

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

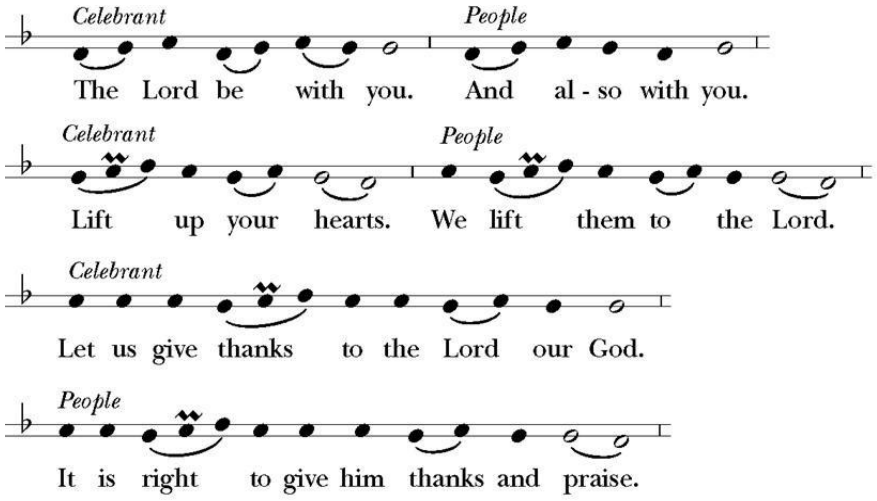
ANTIPHON Out of the deep have I called unto Thee Tone II

ANTHEM Give almes of thy goods Christopher Tye (c1505-1583)

Give almes of thy goods,
And turn never thy face from any poor man;
And then the face of the Lord shall not be turned away from thee.

The people stand as the offerings are brought forward, presented, and placed on the altar.

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



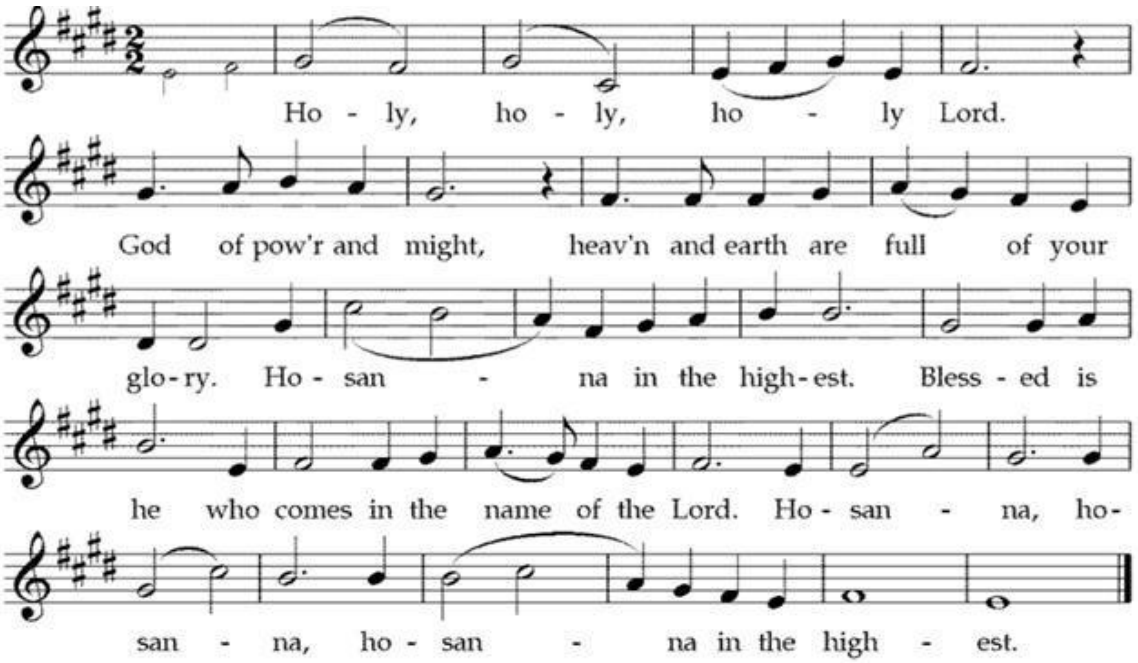
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues the prayer and concludes the preface, saying,

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



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:

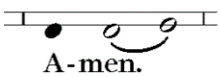
Celebrant and People

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



THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Contemporary)* BCP 364

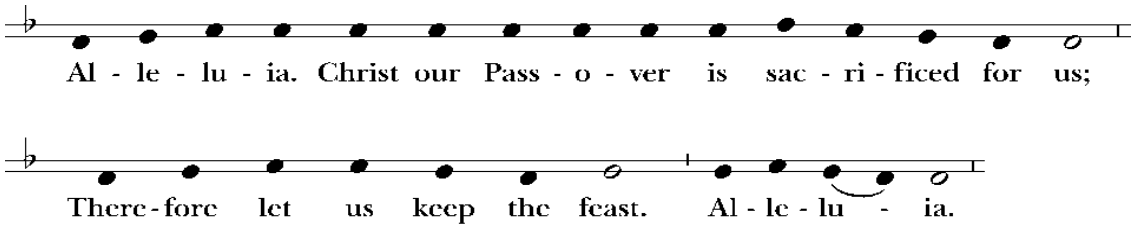
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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 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 Verily, I say unto you Tone I

AGNUS DEI



HYMN 312 Strengthen for service, Lord *Malabar*

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**.

HYMN 541 Come, labor on *Ora Labora*

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).

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Randolph and Clementi Holder and Walter Turnbow by Marjory Holder and Larry Turnbow

LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

The Reverend Samuel V. Tallman
Celebrant & Homilist

Dr. James Bumgardner
Organist & Choirmaster

Trey Stauffer
Cantor

Andy Sicard
Verger

Renée Lyons
Crucifer

Cecilia Grasinger
Chalice Minister

Bill Devereux, Donna Devereux, Helene Harper
Lectors



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

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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

The Reverend Torrence Harman | 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

Valerie Purcell and Andy Sicard | Vergers

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