

# ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**10:10 AM**  
**JULY 12, 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.



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 COLLECT OF THE DAY



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

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



**A - men.**

*The people are seated for the reading of the lessons from sacred scripture.*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 55: 10-13

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.  
For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

**PSALM 65: 9-14**

*Te decet hymnus*

Tune: William Crotch (1775-1847)

*The Psalm is sung by the Choir.*

9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;  
you make it very plenteous; \*  
the river of God is full of water.

10 You prepare the grain, \*  
for so you provide for the earth.

11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; \*  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

12 You crown the year with your goodness, \*  
and your paths overflow with plenty.

13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, \*  
and the hills be clothed with joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,  
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; \*  
let them shout for joy and sing.

**THE SECOND LESSON**

Romans 8: 1-11

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

*Lector*           The Word of the Lord.

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

*(All stand to sing as able.)*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

*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.*



## 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,*

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

**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 the Hymn.)*

### ANTIPHON

I will offer in his dwelling an oblation

Tone I

### AGNUS DEI

The musical score for the Agnus Dei is presented in five staves. The first staff is for High Voices, starting with an organ introduction. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the". The second staff is for Low Voices, with lyrics: "sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of". The third staff continues the Low Voices part with lyrics: "God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have". The fourth staff is for All Voices, with lyrics: "mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the". The fifth staff concludes the piece with lyrics: "sins of the world: grant us peace."

### HYMN 593

Lord make us servants of your peace

*Dickinson College*

*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 530**

Spread, o spread, thou mighty word

*Gott sei dank*

**THE DISMISSAL**

*The Celebrant proclaims the dismissal, and the people respond,*

**Thanks be to God.**

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

**The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Kevin Kapral and Will Merrill by their families.**

The setting of the Mass Ordinary (*Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei*) is *Mass in E* by Jeffrey Smith (b. 1960)

## LEADERS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

The Reverend Samuel V. Tallman  
*Celebrant*

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege  
*Homilist*

James Bumgardner  
*Choirmaster/Organist*

Nyla Galloway  
*Cantor*

Peter Purcell  
*Crucifer*

Cynthia Tessien, Leslie Billingsley  
*Eucharistic Ministers*

Jim Snow, Marjory Holder, Nioucha Branstrom  
*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