

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 28, 2021

MORNING PRAYER

RITE II

Join the service via Zoom here –
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85452001609>

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 675

Take up your cross, the Savior said

Bourbon



1 Take up your cross, the Sa - vior said, if
2 Take up your cross, let not its weight fill
3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and
4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength, and
5 Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, nor



1 you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
2 your weak spi - rit with a - larm; his strength shall bear your
3 let your fool - ish heart be still; the Lord for you ac -
4 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -
5 think till death to lay it down; for on - ly those who



1 will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
2 spi - rit up, and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.
3 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
4 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.
5 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

THE OPENING SENTENCES

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I John 1:8, 9

Jesus said, "If anyone will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

Mark 8:34

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 Officiant 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.**

All say the Antiphon:

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: **Come let us adore him.**

Psalm 95: 1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
 let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
 and a great King above all gods.
 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
 and the heights of the hills are his also.
 The sea is his, for he made it, *
 and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
 For he is our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
 Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

All repeat the Antiphon:

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: **Come let us adore him.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 22:22-30, *Deus, Deus meus*

The Cantors sing the appointed portion of the Psalm.

- 22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *
 stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
 all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
 neither does he hide his face from them; *
 but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
 and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
 "May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
 and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

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

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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

CANTICLE 10

BCP 90

Prayer of Manasseh 1-2, 4, 6-7, 11-15

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, *
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and of all their righteous offspring:
You made the heavens and the earth, *
with all their vast array.

All things quake with fear at your presence; *
they tremble because of your power.
But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.
O Lord, you are full of compassion, *
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.
You hold back your hand; *
you do not punish as we deserve.
In your great goodness, Lord,
you have promised forgiveness to sinners, *
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.
And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *
and I know my wickedness only too well.
Therefore I make this prayer to you: *
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.
Do not let me perish in my sin, *
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.
For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *
and in me you will show forth your goodness.
Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
in accordance with your great mercy, *
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.
For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

THE SECOND LESSON

Mark 8:31-38

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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.**

ANTHEM

I have longed for thy saving health, O Lord

William Byrd (c. 1539-1623)

I have longed for thy saving health, O Lord; thy law is my delight.
O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and thy judgments shall help me.

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. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. **We praise your name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. **For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;

R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and 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 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.**

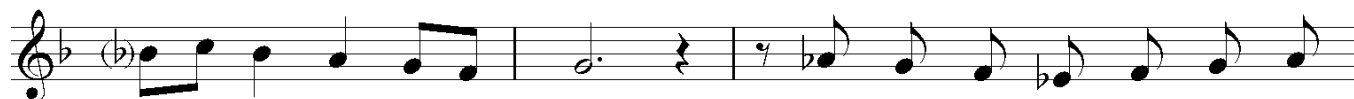
HYMN 456

O Love of God, how strong and true

de Tar



1 O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal
 2 (O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous) Love, we read thee
 3 (We read thee best in him who) came to bear for
 4 (We read thy power to bless and) save e'en in the



and yet ev - er new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -
 in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -
 us the cross of shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on
 dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion



bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all
 low, in seas that swell and streams that
 high, our life to live, our death to
 light we read the full - ness of thy



thought. 2 O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous
 flow. 3 We read thee best in him who
 die. 4 We read thy power to bless and
 might.

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 Joseph, our President, 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: Debbie B., Jon Gates family, Don, Whitley family, June Rose, Graeme, Pat, Thomas Sherwood, James S., Dean Hamric, Lisa Kaufmann, Claudia Clark, Bill Elder, Jr., Terry, Mary Ellen Raulerson, Oliver and Elizabeth

****(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: Judy, Steve, Michele, Betty Blackburn, Jason Whitley, Cynthia, Rick, Susan Helsabeck, Blaine Smith, Bill C.

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

For those celebrating birthdays this week:

3/01 Rhonda Ann McDonald

3/03 Radie Armstrong, Van Joffrion, Nedra McCraw, Larry Turnbow

3/04 Olivia Knight

3/05 Pam Ayoub, Mark Curry

Parish Prayer Cycle:

2/28 E.B. Springs

3/01 Bo Henderson

3/02 Jerry and Genie Starnes

3/03 Merida Steele

3/04 Audrey Stone, Linda Stone

3/05 Denise Story

3/06 Bill Stroh

ANNOUNCEMENTS



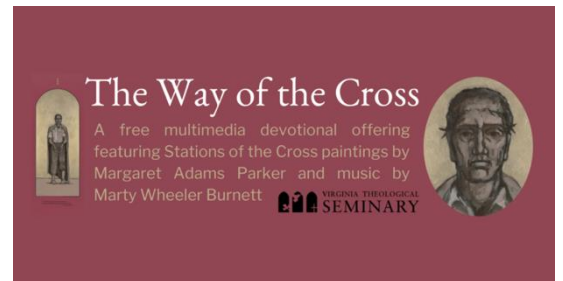
Rector's Forum – We continue a Lenten series entitled, “A Spring in the Desert,” based upon the book by Bishop Frank and Victoria Logue. Join us this morning as we consider sacred stories, ancient teachings, and images of creation from the desert. All are welcome! We gather at 9:00AM via Zoom each Sunday morning – Click [HERE](#) to join the meeting (password: forum).

In-Person Worship Resumes NEXT SUNDAY – Holy Eucharist will be offered at **8:00AM** (without music) and **11:00AM** (with music, live-streamed), beginning Sunday, March 7th. Masks, social distancing, and pre-registration are *required* and the Church will receive a thorough cleaning between services. Read more from Fr. Andrew – [HERE](#).

Registration for Sunday services will open on Mondays at 9:00AM, via Eventbrite. Links will be available on our parish website – [HERE](#).

Opportunities to serve, either as an Acolyte/Lector or a Greeter/Usher, are available. Learn more and sign-up – [HERE](#).

Stations of the Cross - Virginia Theological Seminary is pleased to offer a video version of The Way of the Cross and a reflection guide. Through scripture, art, and music, the video invites us to walk with Christians of every generation on a virtual pilgrimage, meditating on our Lord's passion and death. Many people choose to make the Way of the Cross a part of their devotions during the season of Lent and the Stations are especially appropriate to be prayed on Fridays. The video is available to be prayed at any time and can be accessed by click on the image above. Reflection guides are available on our parish website's [Lent 2021 page](#).



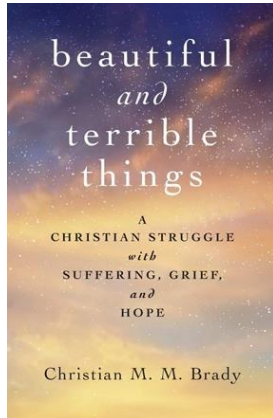
Church Open for Prayer – The Church will be open for individual, private prayer during regular office hours (9-5 Monday-Thursday, 9-5 Friday). If a service is scheduled during the week, the Church will close one hour prior and remain closed for one hour following the service. Masks and social distancing are required at all times in the building and the front door will be the only entry available to access the Church.

The Parish Office remains open to parishioners and visitors, by appointment only. Please contact a member of the staff via phone or e-mail before coming to the Church.

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.



Psalms: Hebrew Expressions of Faith & Hope - Fr. Sam Tallman is offering a Zoom discussion group engaging four familiar Psalms interpreted through the Jewish tradition. There is great power to be found in the ancient Jewish witness of faith for this COVID-time, for our Lenten journey, and for discerning a “new normal” to emerge out of this pandemic. The four sessions will be on Mondays, 3:30-4:45. E-mail Fr. Sam (sam@stmaryofthehills.org) for more information



Lenten Reading 2021 – *It's not too late to join!* Throughout the season of Lent, Fr. Andrew will be offering reflections and leading discussion on the book, *Beautiful and Terrible Things: A Christian Struggle with Suffering, Grief and Hope*. Written by the Reverend Christian Brady, Ph.D., an Episcopal priest and biblical scholar whose research has focused on the Old Testament book of Lamentations, the book is a personal, biblical, and theological struggle with the reality of suffering, pain, and loss. A limited number of books are available from the parish office for \$10. The book is also available online from a variety of booksellers. Study groups will be offered on Wednesday evenings, 5:30-6:30PM, and Thursday afternoons, 12:00-1:00PM, beginning this week. E-mail Fr. Andrew (rector@stmaryofthehills.org) to be added to the e-mail list.

Healthy for Life - *Healthy for Life* is an evidence-based nutrition education program created by Aramark and the American Heart Association. The goal of the program is to empower people to make healthful lifestyle choices in regards to food, nutrition, and physical activity. Four interactive, online sessions are being offered during the months of March and April, 2021, by the Department of Nutrition and Health Care Management of Appalachian State University. The four consecutive sessions will cover the topics, "Feed Your Potential", "Healthy Ingredient Swaps", "Food Label Smarts", and "Pantry Makeovers". Sessions are currently scheduled for 2 pm on Thursdays, March 4 and 18, and April 1 and 15. Additional times for each session may be scheduled based on audience need. There is no charge for the program. Participants will be asked to complete a pre- and post-survey, and those who attend all four sessions will receive a cookbook and a certificate of completion. For more information, including details on how participants can register and access the online program, please contact Dr. Kyle Thompson of the Department of Nutrition and Health Care Management by e-mail (thompsonkl@appstate.edu) or phone (828-262-2631).

**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).

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)*

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

2021	2022	2023
Sterling Hutcheson	Doug Galke, Jr. Warden	Marjory Holder
Gigi Poole	Lisa Kaufman	Faith Jones
E.B. Springs	Roy McCraw	Chip Monroe
Jim West	Tim Silver, Sr. Warden	Patty Patella
	Amanda White, Treasurer	
	Elizabeth Sudderth, Clerk	

+++

St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church

P. O. Box 14 - 140 Chestnut Drive
Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605-0014

www.stmaryofthehills.org

828.295.7323