

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Mills River, North Carolina
The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2026

Sacred Place +++ Sacred Space
Please observe silence after the altar candles are lit



PRELUDE *We Gather Together*

Brad Nix

A bell rings three times; the people stand.

Hymns and service music are found in the blue 1982 Hymnals (H) and the purple Glory to God hymnals (GTG) They are in the racks under the chairs.

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE HYMN

H #410 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven ever more his praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him; ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant	Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
<i>People</i>	And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

GTG #402 How Lovely, Lord

How lovely, Lord, how lovely is your abiding place;
my soul is longing, fainting, to feast upon your grace.
The sparrow finds a helter, a place to build her nest;
and so your temple calls us within its walls to rest.

In your blest courts to worship, O God, a single day
is better than a thousand if I from you should stray.
I'd rather keep the entrance and claim you as my Lord
than revel in the riches the ways of sin afford.

A sun and shield forever are you, O Lord Most High;
you shower us with blessings; no good will you deny.
The saints, your grace receiving, from strength to strength shall go,
and from their life shall rivers of blessing overflow.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:1-15

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still

alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 133

¹Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *

when brethren live together in unity!

²It is like fine oil upon the head *

that runs down upon the beard,

³Upon the beard of Aaron, *

and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

⁴It is like the dew of Hermon *

that falls upon the hills of Zion.

⁵For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *

life for evermore.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

GTG #795 Healer of Our Every Ill

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.
You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and
gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.
In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding.
give us all your vision, God of love.

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.
Give us strength to love each other, every sister, every brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.
You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of
healing; Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

GOSPEL: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Rev. Tracey Kelly

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

Leader: Sisters and brothers, the Lord is full of compassion and mercy. Let us pray to the Lord singing,

All shall be well. All shall be well.

7 All man - ner of things shall be well. All shall be well.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant

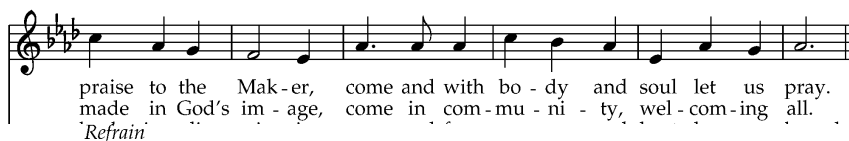
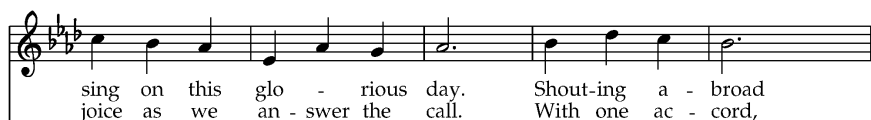
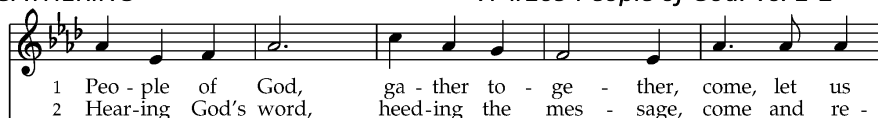
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

GATHERING

VF #109 People of God. Vs. 1-2



THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY *Mercy in the Silence*

Ruth Elaine Schram

PRESENTATION HYMN

LEVAS #146 Break Thou the Bread of Life



1. Break thou the bread of life, Dear Lord, to me,
 2. Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, To me, to me,
 3. Teach me to live, dear Lord, On - ly for thee,



1. As thou didst break the loaves Be - side the sea;
 2. As thou didst bless the bread By Gal - i - lee;
 3. As thy dis - ci - ples lived in Gal - i - lee;



1. Be - yond the sa - cred page I seek thee, Lord;
 2. Then shall all bond - age cease, All fet - ters fall,
 3. Then, all my strug - gles o'er, Then, vic - t'ry won,



1. My spir - it pants for thee, O liv - ing word!
 2. And I shall find my peace, My all in all.
 3. I shall be - hold thee, Lord, The liv - ing one.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS WLP # 858 Holy, holy, holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven 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 in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

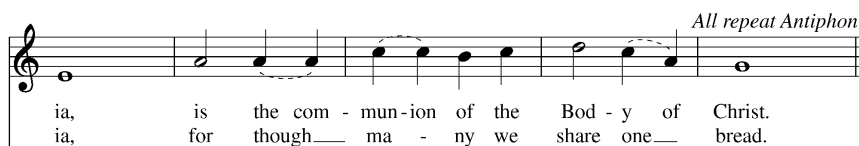
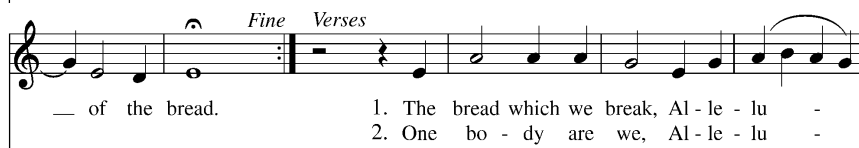
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM

WLP 876 *The disciples knew the Lord Jesus*

Antiphon
Cantor, then all



All repeat Antiphon

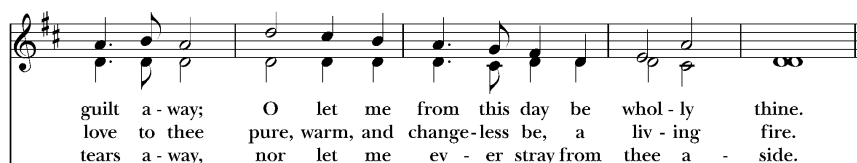
COMMUNION INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

(The bread and wine are given to the people. Please indicate that you would prefer a gluten-free wafer by placing your hands with palms together when you come up to receive Communion.).

COMMUNION HYMN

H #691 *My faith looks up to thee*



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

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.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN

H #493 O for a thousand tongues to sing

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heayen.

DISMISSAL

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

From riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2026 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. Hymns and service music are from *The Hymnal 1982* (Church Publishing Inc.), *Wonder, Love and Praise* (Church Publishing Inc.), and *Glory to God* hymnal GTG (Presbyterian Publishing Corp). Music is reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-730051. All rights reserved.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gentle Yoga with Kelly, 10:00 on Fridays

Grill and Chill, Thurs., Aug. 20th, 6:00 pm

Daytime Book Club, Mon. Aug. 24th, 11:30 am, Southern Streams Coffee House

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rev. Tracey Kelly, Rector, tracey@ourhollyfamily.org

Rev. Tammy Bales, Preaching Associate, pastortam12@gmail.com

Ryan Singleton, Music Director, singletonryan97@gmail.com

Jeanne Mason, Parish Administrator, secretary@ourhollyfamily.org

Liz Spahr, Pastoral Care Coordinator, liz@ourhollyfamily.org

Jodi Harbin, Youth Ministry Coordinator, jodi.m.harbin@gmail.com

VESTRY

Greg Harbin, Sr. Warden, greg@ourhollyfamily.org

Kelly Brown, Jr. Warden, KALB266@gmail.com

Jeffery Heck, Treasurer, jeffery.heck@gmail.com

Kelly Beaty, Secretary, ktsb@icloud.com

Laura Phipps, Vestry Liaison for Congregational Vitality,
Ljphipps1128@gmail.com

Paulette Remppel, Vestry Liaison for Christian Formation,
lette813@icloud.com