Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church
and College Chapel
SERVICE OF WORSHIP
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
October 31, 2021
11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"One of the marvelous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals. When we pool our strength and share the work and responsibility, we can welcome many people, even those in deep distress, and perhaps help them find self-confidence and inner healing."

Jean Vanier

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

THE PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** **Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt**

One voice: O God our help in ages past,
Our hope in years to come.
Many voices: **You are our refuge and fortress,**
Our shelter from the storms of life.

One voice: O God, you are a very present help
In times of trial and trouble.
Many voices: **There we will look to you**
And not be afraid.

One voice: O God, we come to you today,
A church reformed,
and always reforming.
Many voices: **We raise our voice now in praise,**
To the rock of our salvation.

***HYMN 749** "Come, Live in the Light!"
Text and Music by David Haas, 1988
WE ARE CALLED

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** **Pat Levi**

O God, we confess today our failure to believe that the world can change. We doubt because, trusting in our own strength alone, we have tried to change it, to make it better, more just, more peaceful, and we have fallen short. Equip us with the power of steadfast hope and unalloyed faith so that our energy and our courage might be renewed; energy to continue the work, courage to believe that change is possible, that hope can triumph over fear, that peace and justice can prevail, that scarcity can give way to abundance. Through Christ we pray (*silent prayer . . .*) Amen.

THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE
One voice: This is the good news of the gospel, and it is for us all.
Many voices: We are forgiven, we are set free.
By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are loved forever.

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL
All those children and youth who are present are invited to come forward at this time.

A READING FROM THE PROPHETS
Isaiah 58:6-12

6 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?
7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe them,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?
8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness[a] will go before you,
and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.
9 Then you will call, and the LORD will answer;
you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.
"If you do away with the yoke of oppression,
with the pointing finger and malicious talk,
10 and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,
then your light will rise in the darkness,
and your night will become like the noonday.
11 The LORD will guide you always;
he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land
and will strengthen your frame.
You will be like a well-watered garden,
like a spring whose waters never fail.
12 Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins
and will raise up the age-old foundations;
you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls,
Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS
Matthew 5:13-15

THE SERMON
Together We Serve

***HYMN 767** "Together We Serve"
Text and Music by Daniel Charles Damon, 1996
SAN ANSELMO

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison)

We believe that the horizons of hope are never fixed.
They always move beyond our understanding,
in the creativity of God.
We believe that the powers of evil cannot kill God.
God walks on freely and leaps ahead of us,
in the risen Christ of faith.
We believe that the Spirit can never be confined.
She dances throughout the world,
and is found in surprising places.
And so, we affirm that even when darkness gathers,
We will live in hope. We will keep the faith!
Even when justice seems far off and peace feels like a dream,
We will live in hope. We will keep the faith!
Until God's reign is realized on earth as it is in heaven,
We will live in hope. We will keep the faith!

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN 275** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"
Text and Music by Martin Luther, 1529
EIN' FESTE BURG

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE

*Please stand as you are able.

CHAPEL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt, Minister
Joel P. Rogers, Director of Music, Organist
Donna Eagle Joslin, Church Administrator
Leslie Sayyar, Brent Roberts, Treasurers
Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: Pat Levi
Elder of the Day: Bob Gambrell

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PRAYERS GO OUT TO: Erika Lytle; Jackie Ligon Cole; Rick Garrison; Fran Roberts' sister-in-law, Linda Briggs; Blake Joslin; Flo Bishop; Jon Hettrick and his family; Jon's mother, Marjorie Hettrick; Mark Laabs, friend of the Griswolds; Kim Reece, daughter of Nancy and Rick Garrison, and Pat Crumpler.

OFFERING We will not receive a formal offering today but offering plates are available for your offering and pledge cards. Next Sunday we will collect the Nickel a Meal offering, so look for the red basket.

COVER ART The cover art for this bulletin was designed by Martha Dugger, and is one of several new icons developed by our Communications Team to highlight various aspects of our church life. You can view them on our website, www.warrenwilsonchurch.org . (Scroll down the homepage and click on the panel that says Ways to Connect and you'll see them there.)

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church and College Chapel



October 31, 2021

101 Chapel Lane ~ Swannanoa, NC 28778
(828) 298-9092
Visit our website by going to:
www.warrenwilsonchurch.org

At Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church we are mothers and fathers, single and married, gay and straight, young and old, black and white, prosperous and poor, uncertain and sure, broken and whole- and everything in between. Together we are the many faces of humanity, yet as a joyful, caring and loving community of faith, we are one in Christ!