Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church
and
College Chapel

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
First Sunday of Christmas
December 26, 2021
11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"The Christmas spirit is simply an honest spirit of love for all humanity. It is the force that moves us to give what we can, to help as we are able, and to always be of kind comfort." Rachel E. Goodrich

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

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

One voice: Come, join the search for all that God will reveal.
Many voices: We find God wrapped in light and mystery!

One voice: God has done wonderful things among us.
We have come here to worship and give thanks.
Many voices: In Jesus, the Christ, God gives us light for our darkness and guidance for our journey.

One voice: Arise, shine for your light has come!
Sing praise to the living God!
Many voices: We shall live as people of the light!
We shall walk and not be afraid!

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN** "O come, All Ye Faithful"
Text and Music by John Francis Wade, 1743
ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the king of Angels!
(refrain)
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Very God, begotten, not created!

(refrain)

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

(refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Jesus, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

(refrain)

***THE PRAYER OF ADORATION (UNISON)**

O God of hope and peace, of joy and love, you have brought forth a child whom we call blessed, the one whose coming we have waited for. Through him you give us the gift of abundant life, and have taught us the way of love and peace. With shepherds and angels, we lift our voices rejoicing: All glory to you in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom you dwell. Amen!

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 GOSPELS Mark 6:1-3

A CHRISTMAS STORY: "The Beginning and the End **"**

***HYMN 128** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"
Text: Polish carol; trans. Edith M.G. Reed, 1920
W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)** ***It's Not Over **Ann Weems**

It is not over,
this birthing.
There are always newer skies
into which
God can throw stars.

When we begin to think
that we can predict the Advent of God,
that we can box the Christ in a stable in Bethlehem,
that's just the time
that God will be born
in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.

Those who wait for God
watch with their hearts and not their eyes,
listening
always listening
for angel words.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN 136** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"
Text: African American spiritual; stanzas, John W. Work II,1940
Music: African American spiritual; arr. John W. Work III, 1940
GO TELL IT

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE POSTLUDE**

*Please stand as you are able

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

Liturgists: Carla Greenfield
Elder of the Day: Ken Murchison

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THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS GO OUT TO: Shane Reece, Nancy Garrison's son; Rachel Sparling and family, on the death of her sister-in-law Christie Sparling; Gina Marvin; Salyna Morgan; Blake Joslin; Erika Lytle; Jackie Ligon Cole; Rick Garrison; Doug Bradley; Fran Roberts' sister-in-law, Linda Briggs; 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 commitment cards.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING The Christmas Joy Offering reflects the promise that God is with us. Fifty percent of your generous gifts to this offering assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. The other fifty percent makes it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. We are collecting this special offering today Dec. 26. Please make checks out to WWPC with Christmas Joy on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

KENTUCKY DISASTER RELIEF The people of Kentucky have been hit very hard by a series of tornadoes. If you would like to support the disaster relief effort there, make your check payable to WWPC and note "Kentucky Disaster Relief" on the memo line. We will pass 100% of these funds on to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. You can also give directly to PDA through our website, or through theirs. (Just Google Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.)

SVCM NEEDS Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry needs your help with Fall/Winter children's clothing. Drop off Monday-Friday from 9:00-3:00. Need: Baby wipes, blankets (new or gently used), winter coats, sheets and towels and washcloths, laundry detergent, cat and dog food.

END OF YEAR GIFTS: To have your gifts counted as 2021 income, you must postmark your checks (or deliver them to the church) by December 31. For online gifts, the Presbyterian Foundation must process the payment by December 31.

COVER IMAGE by Carole Ohl, Open seed Arts.

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101 Chapel Lane ~ Swannanoa, NC 28778

(828) 298-9092

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!