Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
1st Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022
11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"Hope is the dream of a soul awake." French Proverb

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"
Arranged by Dan R. Edwards
Handbell Choir

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (seated)
Izzy & Tacci Presnell-Smith

Leader: In a world marked by conflict and scarcity,
Where innocent people suffer and hope is elusive,
O God, we call upon you to come.
People: In a world where so many have lost hope,
We call upon you, O God of hope, to come.

(The first candle, the Candle of Hope, is lit.)

Leader: In this season of Advent,
We wait for the coming of hope into our world.
We await the birth of the Christ-child,
The coming of God into our lives in a new way.
All: We wait in hope and expectation.

***HYMN 88 (verses 1, 2, 6 and 7)** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Text: Latin prose, pre-9th cent.
Music: Thomas Helmore, 1852
VENI EMMANUEL

THE CALL TO CONFESSION **Don Collins**

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)**

God of today and God of tomorrow,
You say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here."
But we say, "Our lives are too messy."
You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams.
There's room for you here"
But we say, "It's too risky to hope."
You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers.
There's room for you here."
But we say, "Some things are easier to forget."
God of today and God of tomorrow,
We know in our hearts that there's room for us here.
Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you.
Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best.
Help us remember, today and tomorrow,
There's room for every story. Amen.

***WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

Family of faith,
We who feel scattered are held together.
We who have lost our way are forgiven and found.
We who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told,
"There's room for you here."
From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL Rev. Sarah Grace Montgomery
All those children and youth who are present are invited to come forward at this time.

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Isaiah 2:1-5

THE ANTHEM "There is no rose"
Music by Graham J. Ellis

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu: Alleluia.
For in this rose contained was
Heav'n and earth in little space: *Resmiranda.
By that rose we may well see
There be one God in persons three: **Pares forma.
Then leave we all this worldly mirth,
And follow we this joyous birth: ***Transeamus.

*'A wonderful thing'
**'Of the same form'
***'Let us go'

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 1:1-17

THE SERMON **Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt**
"Join the Story"

***HYMN** "Through the Ages"
Text: Anna Strickland, 2022
Music: James R. Murray, 1887
MUELLER

Oh down through the ages and generations
From God in the garden to Jesus the son
Each story was woven, each one has a place
Within the great tapestry telling God's grace.

From Abraham, Isaac, and Israel's line
How Rahab and Ruth and Bathsheba survived
From exile in Egypt to Babylon far
Christ's lineage shows how complex stories are.

And still through the ages our stories will find
Belonging in God's story of humankind
From God in the garden to eternity
We're woven together as one tapestry.

***THE ADVENT AFFIRMATION (Unison)**

When nation rises against nation, and kingdom against kingdom,
The end is not violence:
For there is a God of resilient, redeeming love,
A Brighter Purpose is at work in the shadows,
And the darkness cannot smother it.
This, O god of hope, we believe.

When there are earthquakes, famines and floods
And collisions among the stars,
The end is not chaos:
For the creator of the heavens and the earth has not forsaken us,
And light will again shine out of the darkness.

When our hopes are deferred,
And peace and justice seem but a distant dream
The end is not despair;
For the Spirit is at work to give birth to impossible dreams
This, O God of hope, we believe.

Written by Bruce Prewer (adapted)

THE PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN 104** "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"
Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1653
Music: Melchior Teschner, 1614
VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE

*Please stand as you are able

CHURCH STAFF
Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt, Minister
Rev. Sarah Grace Montgomery, Associate in Ministry
Joel P. Rogers, Music Director, Organist
Donna Eagle Joslin, Church Administrator
Ann Cr Leslie Sayyar, Brent Roberts, Treasurers
Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

Liturgist: Don Collins
Coffee Hour Hosts: The Chapel Choir
Elder of the Day: Sandy Brauer

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WELCOME VISITORS! If you are worshiping here for the first time today, welcome! We are glad to have you with us on this joyous day.

PRAYERS GO OUT FOR: Walt Roberts, Fran & Burnace's son; Houston Huggins, Beth Meriwether's brother; Kip Smith, Tacci's father; Pat Crumpler; Milt and Sandee Butterworth, and family; Shane Reece, Nancy Garrison's son; Pat Wilson's son, Kell; Bartley and Phyllis Spencer, Sandy Brauer's brother and sister in law; Erika Lytle; Jackie Ligon Cole; Rick Garrison; 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.

OFFERING We will not receive a formal offering during our service however, there are offering plates as you enter the sanctuary, or you may mail your offering to: Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church
101 Chapel Lane, Swannanoa, NC 28778, or make donations directly and securely on our website by going to, warrenwilsonchurch.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday School for Youth and Children has resumed. The playground will open at 9:30 and we will start our lessons at 9:45 in the downstairs youth room. We will have interactive lessons based on the Worship text of the day, plus time for music and fellowship. All are welcome!

A NOTE ABOUT OUR LITURGY The Call to Confession, the Prayer of Confession and the Words of Forgiveness are adapted from liturgy written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

COME, CELEBRATE JOEL'S MINISTRY! Today is Joel's last Sunday with us, as our Director of Music. Please join us in the Parlor for a reception after worship to celebrate Joel's leadership of our choirs and of our music program more generally. And please hold Joel and Rich in your prayers as they take the next step in their life journey!

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS This year, we have Advent devotionals available in hard copy for you in the Narthex, or through the link that went out with our service information. Enjoy!

POINSETTIA ORDERS It's time to put your order in for poinsettias! Time is flying by, and we only have a few weeks to order our Advent poinsettias. Please look for order forms in the Narthex. Fill the form out and put it in the large envelope in the Narthex with your payment. Make checks out to WWPC with Poinsettia on the memo line. The last day to order is today, November 27. Thank you!

THE HANGING OF THE GREENS Join us on Friday, December 2 at 2:30 p.m. as we decorate the Chapel and Fellowship Hall for Advent. Bring your clippers, gloves, and evergreen clippings from around your property. We'll listen to Christmas music while we decorate and have hot cider and goodies as we celebrate the Advent season.

COOKIES AND CAROLS Join us in the Chapel as we share Cookies and Carols with the students on Wednesday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. Bring your favorite Christmas cookies and singing voice for carols!

WASSAIL We will be celebrating Wassail on Sunday, December 11th after the 11;00 am service in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring finger food to share and come enjoy this joyous fellowship again!

CHRISTMAS CRAFT CELEBRATION Our Christmas Craft party will be held on December 18, in Fellowship Hall following our worship service. More information to come in December bulletins.

COVER IMAGE From Public Domain.

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church



November 27, 2022

Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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!