Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
7th Sunday after Epiphany
February 19, 2023
11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God places us in the world as his fellow workers-agents of transfiguration. We work with God so that injustice is transfigured into justice, so there will be more compassion and caring, that there will be more laughter and joy, that there will be more togetherness in God's world.

Desmond Tutu

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE
Now that the daylight fills the sky — Gerald Near

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

One voice: In our questions and in our wondering.
Many voices: God is present with us.

One voice: When we are at peace and when we are afraid.
Many voices: God is present with us.

One voice: On the bright mountaintop and in life's dark valleys
Many voices: God is present with us.

One voice: God is present here and now.
All: Let us worship the living God.

***HYMN 156** — "Sing of God Made Manifest"
Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1990
Music: Jakob Hintze, 1678
SALZBURG

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)** — **Barbara Griswold**

God of the mountain peaks, forgive us when we stay below. God of dazzling light, be patient with us when we fail to see. God of the clouds, guide us when we lose our way. God of movement and wonder, have mercy on us when we confine and limit you. When we falter, restore us; when we are afraid, comfort us; when fail to understand, instruct us that we might follow and believe, through Christ we pray (*silent prayer . . .)*

*** DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

One voice: Hear this good news – the ancient stories we share tell of God who forgives again, and again, and again.
This one that creatively finds new ways to reveal grace upon grace and love upon love.
All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

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 OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 24:12-18

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 17:1-9

THE SERMON — **Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt**
"Bright Shining as the Sun"

***HYMN 193** — "Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain"
Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1991
Music: Joachim Neader, 1680
UNSER HERRSCHER

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)**

We believe in God, Father, Mother, Creator and Creating; who gives us steadfast love, and shares with us our joy, and sustains us in our suffering.

We follow Jesus Christ, Son of God, child of Mary, His death is our victory, his resurrection is our hope; in him the Word became flesh; in him we are offered forgiveness from sin, renewal from failure, reconciliation from brokenness, release from despair.

We are guided by the Holy Spirit, God's presence in the world. By the Spirit we are called into Christ's Church, to celebrate his love, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, to share with him in Baptism and to eat at his Table.

Because we are his disciples, his pilgrim people, we joyfully covenant with each other to walk together in love, to pray for one another, to care for one another, to live together in fellowship, and to enjoy God's presence, in life, in death, in life beyond death.

God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN 317** — "In Christ There Is No East or West"
Text: john Oxenham, 1908
Music: African American Spiritual
MC KEE

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE
Voluntary VI (opus 5) — John Stanley

*Please stand as you are able

Liturgist: Barbara Griswold
Coffee Hour Hosts: Janice Collins
Elder of the Day: Natalie Daugherty

CHURCH STAFF
Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt, Minister
Frank W. Boles, Interim Director of Music
Donna Eagle Joslin, Church Administrator
Leslie Sayyar, Brent Roberts, Treasurers
Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

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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: Lee Dugger and family; Walt Roberts, Fran & Burnace's son; Blake Joslin and his parents, Carol Lee and Brooks; Houston Huggins, Beth Meriwether's brother; Bob & Janice Kesterson, Mark Meriwether's aunt and uncle; Jackie Wintle's cousin, Richard Taylor and her niece, Jessica Brown; Kip Smith, Tacci's father; Pat Crumpler; Shane Reece, Nancy Garrison's son; Pat Wilson's son, Kell; Fred Porter & Fred Harvey, the Griswold's brothers-in-law; 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; Marjorie Hettrick; Kim Reece, daughter of Nancy and Rick Garrison.

WELCOME BACK VIRGINIA! Our guest organist Virginia McKnight has degrees from Stetson University and Florida State University as well as a Certificate from the Neuchatel Conservatory in Neuchatel, Switzerland**.** She has made a career of collaborative piano including work at Yale University. Ithaca College, Cornell University and in New York City. Before moving to Asheville, Virginia taught and accompanied at Stetson University. In Asheville, She has worked as pianist at the Asheville Community Theater, Haywood Arts Repertory Theater, Southern Appalachian Repertory Theater, Mars Hill University, UNC Asheville, and Reynold's High School. Virginia is retired from her position of Organist and Music Director at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, but continues to cover services when needed.

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL See bulletin insert.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING Thanks to all who have donated to this good cause. We will continue to collect donations this week. All cash and food contributions will be used to support local agencies working to address food insecurity here in this area.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC LISTENING SESSION Today, following church in Fellowship Hall, our search team will conduct a listening session to get input from people on their hopes for our music program.

FAT TUESDAY IS BACK! Please join us on Tuesday evening, Feb. 21st, at 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall for the return our Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper, one last festive hoorah before we begin our Lent Journey the next day. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex for what you can bring: an egg casserole, juice, fruit, a protein (meat or vegetarian), and for how you can help: set up and clean up. If you have them, don't forget to wear your Mardi Gras beads!

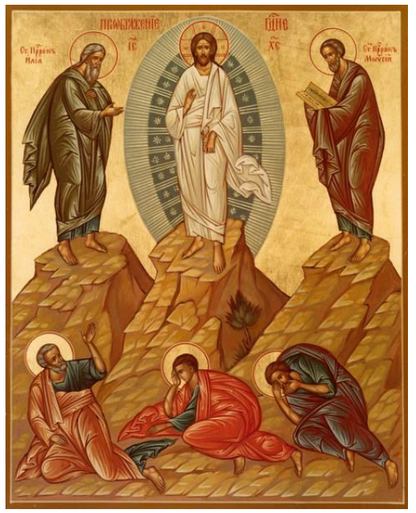
ASH WEDNESDAY Please join us on Wednesday evening, Feb. 22, at 6:00 in the sanctuary for a simple Ash Wednesday service, with imposition of ashes, to mark our entrance into the Lenten season. Choir rehearsal will follow at 7:00.

SPIRITUALITY RETREAT The Presbytery of Western NC is once again offering the yearly Lenten Spirituality Retreat on March 24-25. This year it will be held at William Black Lodge in Montreat. It will be led by Donna Chase, Director of Spiritual Formation at 1st Presbyterian of Greensboro. Each day allows for learning, fellowship and prayer so that you return home relaxed and rejuvenated. Contact Sandy Brauer (828-803-4718) for questions or help getting registered.

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING! As part of our observance and celebration of African American History Month, we will be including songs and hymns and spirituals from the African American tradition in our services throughout February.

COVER Image credit: Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church



February 19, 2023

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!