

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

5th Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“Confront the dark parts of yourself, and work to banish them with illumination and forgiveness. Your willingness to wrestle with your demons will cause your angels to sing. Use the pain as fuel, as a reminder of your strength.” August Wilson

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

Wondrous Love Craig Phillips

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt

One voice: When the night grows dark around us . . .

**Many voices: Let us remember:
We walk by faith, not by sight.**

One voice: When our hearts are prone to fear . . .

**Many voices: Let us remember:
God’s constant exhortation: “Fear not!”**

One voice: When the way ahead leads into the wilderness...

**..Many Voices: Let us remember:
We journey toward Easter in stages.**

One voice: Let us join our hearts together,
and follow Jesus on the road ahead.

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN “Can These Bones Live” (Please see insert)
LAUDA ANIMA**

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

Holy One, as we continue on our Lenten journey, we confess that we would be happy to skip ahead to Easter. The cross and the tomb are frightening stages on the road to resurrection. We are only human. We do not want our hopes to die. We do not want our vision of ourselves, or of our future, or of you, to be sealed off in darkness. As Good Friday now steadily approaches, fix in us an Easter faith, a faith that believes that you will never leave us or forsake us, even when it feels like we are in the tomb. Through Christ we pray.

* WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: God is ever willing to grant us forgiveness, but we cannot receive it if we are unwilling to be changed by it. The promise of the gospel is this: if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation.

ALL: Believe the Good News: we are forgiven!

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 Ezekiel 37:1-14

**ANTHEM God so Loved the World Chilcott
Alisa White, Soprano**

*God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
That whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS John 11:1-45

**THE SERMON Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt
“You’re Not Alone”**

***HYMN 250 “In the Bulb There Is a Flower”
PROMISE**

*LENTEN AFFIRMATION (Unison)

We must look in the windows of the world:

**to see as you see,
to love as you love,
to act as you act.**

**Through us, you would stand by the poor,
rescuing them at the beginning of their distress,
not when they are at the end of their hope.**

**Through us, you would side with the oppressed,
and challenge us to release them
from their tyranny and torture.**

**Through us, you would speak for the voiceless,
and call the powerful to meek and lowly lives.**

**Beloved One:
Help us to be doers,
Not just hearers,
Of your of your word, of your heart.**

From *Through Us* by Thom M. Shuman

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN 286 “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”
TRENTHAM**

*THE CHARGE

THE BENEDICTION (Sung by the choir)

The Grace by Richard Shepherd

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the holy Spirit
Be with us all evermore. Amen.*

During this time of Lent, we ask that you leave the sanctuary in meditative silence following the service.

*Please stand as you are able

Coffee Hour Host: The Daugherty Family
Liturgist: Barbara Griswold
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



WELCOME VISITORS! If you are worshipping 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; Betty Smith; Bob Gambrell; 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 Spencer, Sandy Brauer's brother 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.

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

FINISHING STRONG! Our Lenten educational series focused on preparing for life's final stages continues today. Join us in the Fellowship Hall following worship today as Pastor Steve shares insights he has garnered over many years of shepherding people through their final stages. A light lunch will be provided.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR LITURGY Parts of our liturgy today are drawn from a Lenten resource developed by the creative team from A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING This special offering joins with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors in need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. We will be collecting this offering through Easter Sunday. Please make it out to WWPC with OGHS on the memo line.

LILY ORDERS Order forms for Easter Lilies are in the Narthex. Please fill out the form and leave it with your payment in the large envelope marked "Easter Lilies" in the Narthex. Make checks payable to WWPC with Lilies on the memo line. The Lilies are \$8.00 each. Ordering lilies is a great way to honor your loved ones on Easter morning, then take home and plant in your garden for years of blooms. The last day to order will be April 2, so get your order in today! Thank you.

PALM SUNDAY We will meet in front of the Chapel at 10:55 on April 2 to gather our palms for the service. Then proceed into the Chapel, waving palm branches and leaving our palms on the steps of the Chancel before sitting down to enjoy the service.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE Join us on April 6 at 7:00 pm for this intimate service of prayer, music, and communion as we commemorate the last supper Jesus shared with his disciples.

EASTER BRUNCH Please sign up to bring breakfast items for our Easter brunch which will begin at 9:30 on Easter morning. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you!

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Palm Sunday, 10:55 meet out in front of the Chapel
Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm service in the Sanctuary (Communion will be served)
Easter Sunday, 9:30 breakfast in Fellowship Hall
11:00 service in the Chapel
12:00 special Coffee Hour
12:15 Egg Hunt for youth. Meet on Fellowship Patio

IDEAS WELCOME! Just for Fun is a social gathering that focuses on fellowship and FUN! Ice Cream Sundae Stations, Game night, Talks about different countries or lands, dances, etc. The sky is the limit! This program will run through the church programmatic school year. Any ideas are welcome, please contact Susan Daugherty, Sharon Lytle, or Vicki Collins with your suggestions. Thank you!

The North Carolina Presbyterian Historical Society's Spring Tour will be held this year on Friday and Saturday, April 14-15 at Montreat, Warren Wilson College, and Asheville. On Friday we will explore the resources of the Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat and stay at Assembly Inn. Saturday we'll visit the beautiful Warren Wilson College (Presbyterian) and the historic (1794) First Presbyterian Church in Asheville. Registration \$25. Assembly Inn (828-419-9844) must be booked by April 1 using the ID number 482875. For details and to register for the meeting, go to www.ncphsociety.org or call Don McLeod at 910-695-5550.

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March 26, 2023



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!