Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 27, 2023
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

THE PRELUDE

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

One voice: Come together everyone!
Open your hearts and brings your voices,
let your worship fill the air.
Many voices: **We have come to hear sacred stories,**
We have come to sing sacred songs.

One voice: Come together everyone!
Bring your questions and your doubts;
let them be an offering of wonder.
Many voices: **We have come from many different places,**
We bring all that we are to God!

One voice: Come together everyone!
Bring your faith, your joy and your hope;
let them shine like a holy light.
All: **Let us worship God!**

***HYMN 401** "Here in This Place"
GATHER US IN

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** **Barbara Griswold**

O God, we confess that we sometimes don't know who you are. We confess that we sometimes don't know who we are. When faced with mystery – the mystery of your presence, the mystery of our lives – grant us courage to live the questions, and to practice our faith even when we don't have answers, especially when we don't have answers. May we trade the need for certainty for the gift of wonder, the need to know for the gift of trust, the need to be right for the gift of loving and being loved in return. Through Christ we pray (*silent prayer . . .*)

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One voice: Please know this in your heart.
Many voices: **We are accepted, we are welcomed.**
We are forgiven, we are set free.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are loved forever!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

All those children and youth who are present are invited to come forward at this time.

THE PSALM SUNG 385 (while seated, Psalm 100)
"All People That on Earth Do Dwell"
OLD HUNDREDTH

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS Matthew 16:13-20

THE SERMON **Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt**
"Love the Questions"

***HYMN 301** "Let Us Build a House"
TWO OAKS

***LITANY OF WELCOMING AND COMMITMENT**
Rev. Dr. Shannon Spencer
Chaplain, Director of Spiritual Life, WWC

One: Members of this church, will you greet the students who visit Warren Wilson Presbyterian with words of welcome? Will you invite them to join in the life of this community and support its ministries? And will you receive them even as God, in Christ, has received you?

All: **We will.**

One: Will you also support students who do not visit this community, Welcoming them to this campus and prayerfully encouraging them in their spiritual journeys, wherever that journey might take them?

All: **We will.**

One: To students, guests, and members of this congregation, in your journey of faith, will you seek the way of Jesus—loving God, our neighbors and ourselves, making peace and doing justice, that God's reign might be realized on earth as it is in heaven?

All: **We will seek to embody the ways of Jesus as we live the life of faith. Amen**

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN 26** "Earth and All Stars!"
EARTH AND ALL STARS

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*Please stand as you are able

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

Liturgist: Barbara Griswold
Potluck Hosts: The Congregational Life Team
Elder of the Day: Sharon Lytle

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THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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: Steve White, friend of Beth Meriwether; Derron Daugherty and family, on his accident; Dolores Coulter, Derron's sister: Beth Newman; Susan Runholt, Steve's sister; Lee Dugger and family; Betty Smith; Salyna Morgan; Blake Joslin and his parents, Carol Lee and Brooks; Houston Huggins, Beth Meriwether's brother; Bartley Spencer, Sandy Brauer's brother; Jackie Wintle's sister, Judy Reynolds; Pat Crumpler; Shane Reece, Nancy Garrison's son; Pat Wilson's son, Kell; Fred Porter & Fred Harvey, the Griswold's brothers-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, 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 www.warrenwilsonchurch.org.

WELCOME BACK POTLUCK Join us in welcoming back the college students and celebrating the beginning of our programmatic church school year, today, following our service, from 12:00-2:00 pm. in Fellowship Hall. Good food…good people. All are welcome!

SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF MAUI As it always does when catastrophe strikes, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has already begun responding to the needs of the survivors of the wildfires in Hawai'i. (Fires are also burning on the island of Hawai'i—the Big Island — just a little southeast of Maui). Initial needs during the emergency response phase of the recovery effort include: food, clean water, shelter, and sanitation and hygiene products. You may write your check to Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church, just note "Maui fire relief" on the memo line and 100% of your donation will go to PDA. You may also give directly to PDA, which you can access through the PC(USA) website at pcusa.org.

HANDBELLS Seeking new handbell choir members! Do you enjoy hearing the bells and want to come try your hand at playing? Have you played before and want to rejoin? This year, I'd like to do some more short term, small, handbell groupings and accompany the choir or other instruments. These would be a month or less and meet to practice once a week. If you'd like to join the larger and more consistent bell choir, we'd love to have you as well! Email Natalie Daugherty at forestchick07@gmail.com or text/call.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Looking for Youth Sunday School helpers and teachers! While we work on hiring an Associate, who typically teaches our children's Sunday School, we are looking for volunteers to teach one or more Sundays this Fall. Helpers, who may not want to teach, but enjoy spending time with the children, are also needed for Sunday School. A lesson and Activity/craft suggestions and materials are provided. Helpers assist with crafts and activities as well as help fulfill a very important part of our Child Protection Policy. Let Natalie Daugherty know by phone or email if you are interested in helping out!

CREATIVE ARTS TEAM (A new branch of The Liturgical Arts Team) Are you someone who would like to see more color in our Sanctuary? Perhaps new banners, or other creative expressions for our services on Sunday? Join us with your creative ideas for our inaugural meeting in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 on Wednesday August 30. Soup and bread will be provided. At 6:00, we'll move into the Chapel and exchange our initial ideas. Students are welcome and encouraged to join in. ALL ARE WELCOME! Contact Donna Eagle Joslin with any questions. deagle@warren-wilson.edu

CELEBRATING GINA MARVIN Gina's family invites you to join them for a celebration of her life on September 2, at 1:00 pm in the Chapel at Givens Estates on Sweeten Creek Road. A picnic will follow at a local park.

LABOR DAY SUNDAY Due to concerns about excessive heat and limited parking on campus, we will hold our service next Sunday in the sanctuary. Thanks for your understanding.

CHURCH PARKING LOT Due to a large number of vehicles on campus this year, we are in the middle of discussions with campus security about how best to make sure we have spaces for our church functions. If you see cones blocking the parking lot on the weekend, they are there to make sure church members have spaces to park. We are still working on solutions for weekday meetings etc.

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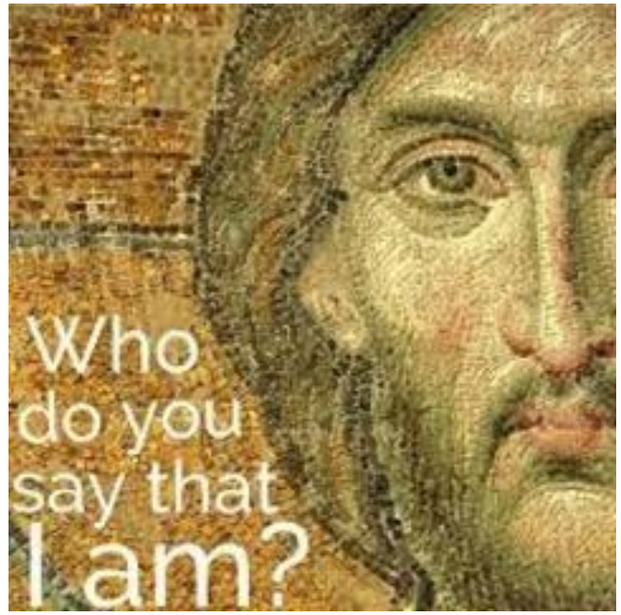
Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church



August 27, 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!