Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 2023
11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills."

Chinese proverb

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION Habitat for Humanity **Larry Griswold**

THE PRELUDE

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP** **Rev. Dr. April Love-Fordham**

One voice: Seek the One who made the cluster of stars
called Pleiades and the constellation Orion.
Many voices: Who turns the shadow of death or deep darkness into the morning?

One voice: And who darkens the day into night?
**Many voices: Who calls for the waters of the sea
And pours them out upon the face of the earth?**

All: Jehovah is the creator's name!

(From Amos 5:8)

***HYMN 42** "Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure"
WINCHESTER NEW

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** **Larry Griswold**

Almighty and merciful God, forgive us when our faith grows dim, when we grow weary in doing justice, when we tire of feeding the hungry, when we want the poor and unclean to stay far from us, when we fail to give witness to your great love for us. In your mercy, remind us that you give us the vision and power to bring justice, to feed the hungry, to clothe and house the poor, to speak the gospel truth to others. *(silent prayer…)*

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One voice: The Lord is long-suffering and slow to anger,
and abundant in mercy and loving-kindness,
forgiving iniquity and transgression.
Many voices: Amen.

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 7:17-8:1

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 24:37-42

THE SERMON **Rev. Dr. April Love-Fordham**
"The Flood"

***HYMN 67** "My Song Forever Shall Record"
PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

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

We believe in God, who is love and who has given the earth to all people;

in Jesus Christ, who came to heal us and to free us from oppression and evil;

and in the Spirit, who works in and through all those who are turned toward the truth.

We believe in the community of faith, which is called to serve all people, and in God's promise to overcome the power of darkness in us all.

We believe that suffering need not be in vain, that death is not the end, and that the disfigurement of the world is not what God intended.

**Therefore, we dare to believe, always and in spite of everything,
In God's power to transform and transfigure,
To fulfill the promise of new heaven, and a new earth,
Where hate shall be turned into hope,
Where pain shall be turned into promise,
And where justice and peace shall flourish. Amen.**

Adapted from The Confession of 1967

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN 694** "Great God of Every Blessing"
AURELIA

***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: Larry Griswold
Elder of the Day: Kay Stockdale

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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.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MOMENT FOR MISSION - Construction of Habitat's next House of Faith began this week in their new Glenn Bridge neighborhood, and today we will receive a special offering to help buy materials for the house. You can help with a donation by check payable to Warren Wilson Church and Habitat for Humanity on the memo line, or by donating with the *Give Online* button near the top right corner of our Church website home page.

WELCOME REV. DR. APRIL LOVE-FORDHAM With two degrees from Georgia Tech, Dr. April Love-Fordham spent twenty very fun years in the corporate world, including several in Washington DC as a technology adviser to both the George H. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations where her resume once claimed that she helped Al Gore invent the internet. Leaving Washington, DC and returning to her home in Atlanta, she rose to the executive suite where her teams were awarded the internet product of the year award two years in a row for the first internet based e-mail system. It was then that she got the idea in her head that she ought to be doing more to make the world a better place. She left the corporate world and went to seminary to search for answers and become a pastor. April earned an MDiv, DMin, and was ordained. Today she is writing a series called Disorderly Parable Bible Studies, including *James in the Suburbs* on James (2014), *Dismantling Injustice* on the Song of Solomon (2016), and *St. Francis and the Christian Life* on Galatians (2018). April has recently moved with her husband, son, and Great Dane to Asheville

GUEST PIANIST Please welcome Stephanie Quinn to our service today. From the age of 10, Stephanie was conservatory-trained in both violin & piano through the Eastman School of Music. Next, she moved to New York City to study with Juilliard Violin professor, Felix Galimir & work in the Philharmonia Virtuosi of New York. Stephanie is a freelance soloist, ensemble leader, and tutti orchestra violinist with an active teaching studio. Fluent in both classical & contemporary music, she has a list of professional credits spanning many pages. Her goal is to share her musical passion, create inspiration & activate the creative impulses of the heart through Music

LET THE PAINTING END! The exterior of Fellowship Hall and the CE building have been painted and stained and look better than ever. We are grateful to Asheville Painters Plus, a local, woman owned business for doing such a great job.

HOMECOMING POTLUCK October 1st is our Homecoming Potluck! Please join your past friends you haven't seen for awhile, and new friends you haven't met yet! Bring your favorite dish to share. The Potluck lunch is after the church service in Fellowship Hall.

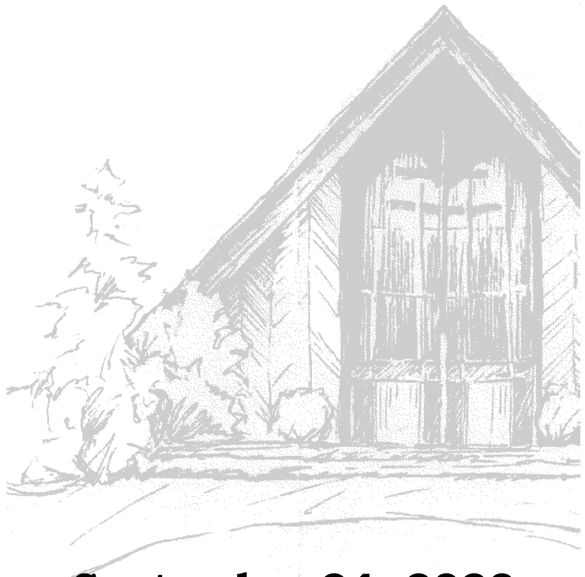
PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING The peace of Christ belongs to everyone…everywhere. This offering offers light to those in the shadows and guides us all into the ways of peace. We come together to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and around the world. 25% of this offering stays in our local community, 25% goes to mid council to join in peacemaking projects regionally, and 50% supports work being done by Presbyterians across the globe. We will collect this offering on World Communion Sunday, October 1, and on the following Sunday, October 8. Please make donations out to WWPC with Peace and Global Witness on the memo line.

WALK FOR YOUR NEIGHBOR The SVCM Walk for Your Neighbor is Sunday, October 7. The Walk begins at 2:00 PM at First Baptist in Black Mountain. The information and sign-up sheet are on the table in the narthex.

SAVE THE DATE This fall, we'll be studying David LaMotte's new book, You Are Changing the World Whether You Like It Or Not. And we're excited to announce that David will be with us at WWPC on October 15 for preaching and teaching, so mark that date on your calendars. Books are on order and will be available soon.

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.

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church



September 24, 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!