Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
24th Sunday after Pentecost
November 12, 2023
11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."
Leo Buscaglia

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP **Diana Sanderson**
Sally Broughton

THE PRELUDE

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

One voice: Blessed are those who trust in God,
who dwell in the presence of the Holy One.
Many voices: We have come to hear God's living word
and to let God's love shape our lives.

One voice: Blessed are all who seek the realm of God,
who hunger to find meaning in their lives.
Many voices: We intend to give our best to our Creator,
bearing fruit in all we say and do.

One voice: Blessed are those who serve God with joy,
who risk the extraordinary in faithfulness and hope.
Many voices: We come now to worship and find new life,
to receive grace and strength for our life's journey.

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN 744** "Arise, Your Light Is Come"
FESTAL SONG

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

Wondrous God, we confess you are present with us even when we do not know it. Open our eyes to see your presence in the world, in the beauty of your creation, in thousands of acts of love and service taking place every day, in every town and city in this country, and around the world. Open our hearts to sense your presence in our lives, and open our ears to hear your voice, inviting us to live life, and to live it abundantly. Through Christ we pray
(silent prayer…)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Unison)**
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 love of Jesus Christ, we are loved forever!

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

HYMN 402 (The Psalm sung, while seated) Psalm 84
"How Lovely, Lord"
ROCKINGHAM

A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT James 2:14-18

THE SERMON **Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt**
"I Wish"

***HYMN 767** "Together We Serve"
SAN ANSELMO

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

We believe God creates the world and all therein good,
even very good,
no matter how far from that goodness human beings wander;
We believe Love casts out fear,
and that living with compassion is the path to joy;
We believe gratitude threads together all the connections in the web of life;
We believe Wisdom dwells among us,
embodying both divine insight and human intellect;
We believe Hope banishes cynicism,
always drawing us toward a creative future;
We believe Awe opens us to an awakened life
that reaches out to the world to restore and save;
We believe Justice flows all around us,
like a healing river;
We are a community of faith.
This we believe.

Adapted from "Credo" by Diana Butler Bass

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN 733** "We All Are One in Mission"
ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

***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
Coffee Hour Hosts: The Community Engagement Team
Elder of the Day: Natalie Daugherty

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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: Martha, and the Dugger family, on Lee's death; Derron Daugherty and family, on his accident; Beth Newman; Susan Runholt, Steve's sister; 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; 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.

STEWARDSHIP Sometimes A Light Surprises – This week's focus is on the Engagement with Our Wider Community goal of our Ministry Plan. The moments for stewardship highlight the work of our Community Engagement Team and our Church College Relations. The church is God's eyes, hands and heart. We turn to Frederick Buechner for words of encouragement. "Calling" assumes a caller. As Buechner notes, for the Christian, this Caller is the living God. What makes hearing this call so difficult is that God's voice is not the only voice calling out to us. "There are all different kinds of voices calling you to all different kinds of work, and the problem is to find out which is the voice of God rather than of Society, say, or the Superego, or Self-Interest. By and large a good rule for finding out is this: the kind of work God usually calls you to is the kind of work (a) that you need most to do and (b) that the world most needs to have done. ... The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet" We hope these highlights have encouraged you to consider where you are being called to share your talents and energy. Please stop by the narthex to review the display.

EMPTY BOWLS Please join the Community Engagement office on campus for the 25th Annual Empty Bowls Dinner on November 15, at 6:00 pm in fellowship Hall! The Empty Bowls Dinner is an opportunity to gather with community members, share a meal together, and continue the conversation about creating equitable food and housing systems that work for all. All proceeds from this event will support the Haywood Street Congregation's Downtown Welcome Table. Student tickets are $15 and general admission tickets are $25. Look for students selling tickets in the Narthex after church today. All are welcome.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE Join us on November 19, at 11:00 am for our Annual Thanksgiving Service in the Sanctuary. This special service brings the Farm, Landscape, and Fiber Arts crews from campus together in the sanctuary for a special display in the Chancel area, complete (some years) with live animals! All are welcome.

THANKSGIVING DINNER Making plans for Thanksgiving? Are you looking forward to company and traditional foods? Are you looking forward to the stress of cooking and housecleaning? Consider joining your church family for our Thanksgiving meal at 2 PM Nov. 23 in Fellowship Hall. We invite students, college staff, friends – everybody! Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex to know what to bring, and let us know if you can help set-up, or clean-up!

POINSETTIA ORDERS It's hard to believe that it's time to order Poinsettia's for our Advent Season! However, the time to order has come. Please fill out the form attached to your bulletin if you'd like to order poinsettias to honor a loved one. They will be displayed on the chancel throughout Advent and taken home following our Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols. There will be an insert listing loved ones, and who is honoring them attached to the Christmas Eve bulletin. Please complete your order and place it along with your payment in the large poinsettia envelope in the Narthex. Thank you for your participation in helping to make our chancel area beautiful for Advent!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
November 19, Thanksgiving Service 11:00 am Chapel
November 23, Thanksgiving Dinner 2:00 pm Fellowship Hall
December 1, Hanging of the Greens 2:30 pm Chapel
December 5, Cookies & Carols 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall
December 10, Blue Ridge Orchestra Concert 3:00 pm Chapel (tickets required)
December 17, Wassail & Celebration 12-2:00 pm Fellowship Hall
December 24, service at 11:00 am Chapel
December 24, Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols 7:00 pm Chapel

COVER IMAGE Designed for Stewardship by John Bishop.

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church



November 12, 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!