Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
4th Sunday after Epiphany
January 28, 2024
11:00 a.m.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 24:1 **Donna Eagle Joslin**

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.

Let our voices be lifted in wonder and praise.

***HYMN 32** "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"
ELLACOMBE

***CONFESSION (Unison)** **Margaret LaMotte Torrence**

Merciful God,
We come grateful for invitations that turn our steps,
and questions that shake our assumptions—
for mirrors in which we see our reflections
in the wider span of your grace.

Holy One, where we have cherished our anger
or harbored resentment,
where we have run from the mercy
you would have us extend,
mend our brittle hearts.
Meet us in the silence and make us new. *(Silent prayer)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (responsive)

Beloved of God,
nothing you have done, nothing you will ever do,
is enough to separate you from the One who loved you into existence,
and who will love you past death.

In the name of Jesus, God's mercy incarnate, let us declare:

Our stories are known; our sins are forgiven;
our work has just begun.

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

FIRST READING Mark 1:14-20

THE ANTHEM Come and Follow Me Robert Cohen

Follow, come and follow me. Leave all that you have behind.
Follow, come and follow me. All my blessings you will find.
Follow, come and follow me. I'll show you the way to Life.
Let your heart just believe That my peace will end your strife.

Follow, come and follow me. See the miracles I do.
Follow, come and follow me. Greater things I'll do through you.
Follow, come and follow me. Let your praise my Love proclaim.
Come, my true servants be Spread through all the world my name.

Follow, come and follow me. Let my Spirit lead the way.
Follow, come and follow me. To the Kingdom's brand new day!
Follow, come and follow me. Let my grace your soul renew.
Take my bread, and receive My abundant life in you.

SECOND READING Jonah 3 and 4

SERMON **Margaret LaMotte Torrence**
Confounding Mercy

***HYMN 435** "There's A Wideness in God's Mercy"
IN BABILONE

***RESPONSE OF FAITH (Unison)**

A Declaration of Faith

We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell.
The story itself tells us God works God's sovereign will
among all peoples of the earth.
We believe God works beyond our imagining
throughout the universe.

We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help.
We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power.
We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God.

To worship God is highest joy.
To serve God is perfect freedom.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN 410** "God Is Calling through the Whisper"
W ŻLOBIE LEŻY

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*Please stand as you are able

The illustration on the cover of the bulletin, "Jonah Plant" is the work of Christine Pippins. It is reprinted with her permission. More of her work may be seen at https://www.facebook.com/redeemingreflections/

CHURCH STAFF
Margaret LaMotte Torrence, Transitional Pastor
Ted Stewart, Interim Director of Music
Donna Eagle Joslin, Church Administrator
Leslie Sayyar, Brent Roberts, Treasurers
Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

Coffee Hour Hosts: Kay & Dennis Stockdale
Liturgist: Donna Eagle Joslin
Elder of the Day: Jim Storey

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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. Please consider filling out a visitor information card, located on the right as you enter the chapel.

PRAYERS GO OUT FOR: Mary Kells' family, on her death; Catherine Showalter and family, on John's death; Martha Dugger; Beth Newman; Susan Runholt, Steve's sister; 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.

NEW MEMBER LUNCH Following today's service there will be a meeting of the session to receive new members.
We'll share a simple lunch and hear each other's stories.
If you are interested in learning more about the church and feel moved to attend, we'd love to have you join us. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall right after worship.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper is on February 13th at 6:00, one last hurrah before we begin Lent! A sign up sheet will be in the narthex for pancake cookers(for those who would love to share their favorite pancake recipe),egg casserole, juice, fruit, or protein(meat or vegetarian). Please join in for a fun evening and wear those Mardi Gras beads!

CALLING TREE WWPC employs a Calling Tree for use when announcements are time sensitive. That list is currently being updated given all the recent interesting, inclement weather forecasts.
A print copy is available in the narthex this morning. Would you please check to make sure that your contact information is correct?. If you're not on this print copy and want to be added, please include your phone number.

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!

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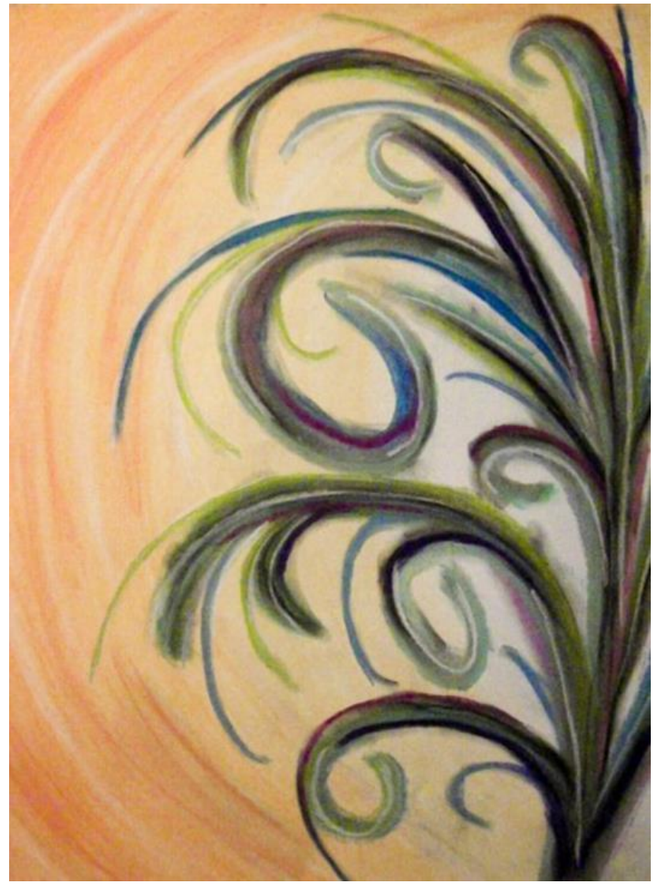

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"I have always found that mercy brings richer fruits than strict justice."

Abraham Lincoln