



Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

May 19, 2024 • Pentecost

Here's one thing
you must understand
about this blessing:
it is not for you alone.

It is stubborn about this.
Do not even try
to lay hold of it
if you are by yourself,
thinking you can carry it
on your own.

To bear this blessing,
you must first take yourself
to a place where everyone
does not look like you
or think like you,
a place where they do not
believe precisely as you believe,
where their thoughts
and ideas and gestures
are not exact echoes
of your own.

Bring your sorrow.
Bring your grief.
Bring your fear.
Bring your weariness,
your pain,
your disgust at how broken
the world is,
how fractured,
how fragmented
by its fighting,
its wars
its hungers,
its penchant for power,
its ceaseless repetition
of the history it refuses
to rise above.

I will not tell you
this blessing will fix all that.

But in the place
where you have gathered,
wait.
Watch.
Listen.
Lay aside your inability
to be surprised,
your resistance to what you
do not understand.

See then whether this blessing
turns to flame on your tongue,
sets you to speaking
what you cannot fathom

or opens your ear
to a language
beyond your imagining
that comes as a knowing
in your bones,
a clarity
in your heart
that tells you

this is the reason
we were made:
for this ache
that finally opens us,

for this struggle,
this grace
that scorches us
toward one another
and into
the blazing day.

Jan Richardson

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Day of Pentecost

May 19, 2024

11:00 a.m.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Romans 8:14-16

Donna Eagle Joslin

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you have received a spirit of adoption.

**When we cry, “Abba! Father!”
it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit
that we are children of God.**

***HYMN 10**

“Sing Glory to the Name of God”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

1 Sing glory to the name of God,
whose holy splendor shines abroad.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Enthroned above the crashing waves,
the God of grace and glory saves.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 The name of God is full of might:
resounding thunder, flashing light.
Alleluia, alleluia!
The wilderness cannot contain
the echoes of the great refrain:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 The name of God is wild and free,
awhirl in holy mystery.
Alleluia, alleluia!
A secret wrapped in smoke and fire,
still chanted by the temple choir:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 May God forever be our peace;
may hymns of glory never cease:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let all the faithful people come;
sing praise to God, the Three-in-One:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***CONFESSION**

**God who stirred over creation's muddy water,
God who swelled in Mary's womb,
God who burned in Pentecost people,
we are quick to discount your nearness, your power,
our charge.**

**Soften our brittle hearts.
Encounter us here,
that our doubt might be our offering,
and our yearning—your joy;
for we claim the promise that you are with us always,
to the end of the age.**

Silent prayer

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

...in the name of Jesus, the resurrection and the life,
let us declare:

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

***RESPONSE (Hymn 587)**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

Children and youth are invited to come forward.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 104:24-34

ANTHEM

The Murmur of the Dove's Song

David Ashley White

“Text Meditation Reference: See Hymn #285”

SECOND READING

Acts 2:1-21

SERMON

Margaret LaMotte Torrence

“The Spirit's Power”

***AFFIRMATION**

Romans 8:22-27

**We know that the whole creation has been groaning
in labor pains until now;
and not only the creation, but we ourselves,
who have the first fruits of the Spirit,
groan inwardly while we wait for adoption,
the redemption of our bodies.**

For in hope we were saved.

**Now hope that is seen is not hope.
For who hopes for what is seen?
But if we hope for what we do not see,
we wait for it with patience.**

**Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness;
for we do not know how to pray as we ought,
but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.**

**And God, who searches the heart,
knows what is the mind of the Spirit,
because the Spirit intercedes for the saints
according to the will of God.**

***HYMN 292**

“As the Wind Song”
WAIRUA TAPU

1 As the wind song through the trees,
as the stirring of the breeze,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the heart made strangely warm,
as the voice within the storm,
so it is with the Spirit of God.
Never seen, ever known
where this wind has blown
bringing life, bringing power to the world,
as the dancing tongues of fire,
as the soul's most deep desire,
so it is with the Spirit of God.

2 As the rainbow after rain,
as the hope that's born again,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
as the green in the spring,
as a kite on a string,
so it is with the Spirit of God,
making worlds that are new,
making peace come true,
bringing gifts, bringing love to the world,
as the rising of the yeast,
as the wine at the feast,
so it is with the Spirit of God.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Table Prayer

Responses:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Food for the Journey

Sending Prayer

***HYMN 280**

“Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among us”
EBENEZER

1 Come, O Spirit, dwell among us;
come with Pentecostal power;
give the church a stronger vision;
help us face each crucial hour.
Built upon a firm foundation,
Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone,
still the church is called to mission
that God's love shall be made known.

2 We would raise our alleluias
for the grace of yesteryears;
for tomorrow's unknown pathway,
hear, O Lord, our humble prayers.
In the church's pilgrim journey
you have led us all the way;
still in presence move before us,
fire by night and cloud by day.

3 Come, O Spirit, dwell among us;
give us words of fire and flame.
Help our feeble lips to praise you,
glorify your holy name.
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Three in One: what mystery!
We would sing our loud hosannas
now and through eternity.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

*Please stand as you are able

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

Liturgist: Donna Eagle Joslin
Luncheon hosts: The Mission Study Team
Elder of the Day: Natalie Daugherty

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS: If you would like to add or update a prayer request, please contact the church office (298-9092).

We celebrate: *Frank Boles for being our organist today; Allee Williams on her Graduation from Owen High School; Our May 12 Adult Ed class: thanks to Beth, Kara and Natalie for sharing the perspective and experience of persons on the autism spectrum. It was a gift to all who attended, and we will look for a chance to offer a more extended conversation to the larger community.*

We remember in prayer: *John Koegel, whose art graces our space, undergoing treatment for lung cancer; Thurman Slone, Joyce Cucinella's brother now under Hospice care; Carol Lee Joslin, Blake Joslin's mother suffering from Alzheimer's; Isaiah Bullerdick (20), Rodney & Sharon Lytle's grandson recovering from a knee injury that ended his junior year football season; Beth Newman, as she continues to heal at home in Asheville; Jackie Ligon Cole; Pat Crumpler; Vernon Daugherty, Sr. (Derron's father); Martha Dugger; Rick Garrison; Houston Huggins (Beth Meriwether's brother); Erika Lytle; Salyna Morgan, recovering from an infection in her bloodstream; Fran Roberts' sister-in-law, Linda Briggs; Jon Hettrick and his family; Marjorie Hettrick; Allyson Hettrick's mother, Sylvia Revis, as she recovers from a fall in assisted living; Kim Reece (daughter of Nancy and Rick Garrison); Shane Reece (Nancy Garrison's son); Pat Wilson's son, Kell.*

CONGREGATIONAL GATHERING Please plan to stay after worship today, **May 19**, for lunch and our Mission Study gathering. We'll share **salad, pizza, ice cream sundaes and holy conversation**.

All are welcome!

IMPORTANT NOTE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 9, we will move our worship service to **Montreat**, and join the conference center's worship in **Anderson Auditorium at 10:30 AM**. **No services will be held that morning in the Warren Wilson Chapel**. *If you need a ride to the service, please let Sally Broughton know.*

MARGARET ON VACATION May 22-June 2

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS—every Wednesday in June, we'll gather to share a meal, deepen friendships, and learn something new

- **June 5, 5:30 at Owen Park**—Come celebrate the ministry of **Donna Eagle Joslin**, as she retires! The church will provide barbecue, drinks and cake; please bring a side dish to share and a lawn chair if you'd like. There is a rumor that the **Whitewater Bluegrass Co** might get us all up on our feet...

- **June 12, 5:30 Supper in the fellowship hall**—**Lutheran Services** expects to welcome 20-25 **refugee families** to our area in the coming months and there is an urgent need to establish circles of welcome to support those families as they acclimate to new surroundings. Come and learn more about how we might be contribute to those efforts.

- **June 19, 5:30 Supper in the fellowship hall**—WVC Chaplain Shannon Spencer and other guests will be here to share information about the **Inside-Out program**, in which Warren Wilson professors teach for-credit classes at the women's prison in Swannanoa. Students from WVC attend these classes alongside incarcerated women on-site at the correctional facility. The college is now exploring the possibility of bringing **formerly incarcerated women to campus** as full-time residential students. Our congregation could offer practical support and friendship to those new students, if this program comes to fruition.

- **June 26, 5:30 Supper in the fellowship hall**—**Savanna Craig from SVCM** will educate us about **new areas of ministry** being undertaken by SVCM

OUR PENTECOST OFFERING will be received today. Proceeds go to support local, national, and international ministries serving children, youth and young adults.

LOVE GIFT FOR DONNA Checks can be made to the church, with "Donna's gift" in the memo line.

THE PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA has **\$500 scholarships** available for **Camp Grier** this summer. If you know any child or youth who might be interested in attending, have them contact Beth Gunn, (beth.gunn@gmail.com, 828-329-9209).



Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*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!*