Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

July 28, 2024 10th Sunday after Pentecost



Dear Child of God,

Before we can become God's partners, we must know what God wants for us. "I have a dream," God says. "Please help Me to realize it. It is a dream of a world whose ugliness and squalor and poverty, its war and hostility, its greed and harsh competitiveness, its alienation and disharmony are changed into their glorious counterparts, when there will be more laughter, joy, and peace, where there will be justice and goodness and compassion and love and caring and sharing. I have a dream that swords will be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, that My children will know that they are members of one family, the human family, God's family, My family."

- Desmond Tutu with Douglas Abrams, God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time (New York: Image Books/Doubleday, 2005), 19–22

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

10th Sunday after Pentecost July 28, 2024 11:00 a.m.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sally Broughton

I am the blossom pressed in a book, found again after two hundred years.

I am the maker, the lover, and the keeper.

When the young girl who starves sits down to a table, she will sit beside me.

I am food on the prisoner's plate.

I am water rushing to the wellhead, filling the pitcher until it spills.

I am the heart contracted by joy. The longest hair, white before the rest.

I am there in the basket of fruit presented to the widow.

I am the one whose love overcomes you, already with you when you think to call my name.

*HYMN 509

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"
HOLY MANNA

1 All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

2 All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.

Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.

We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

3 All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread. Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led. Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God.

in times of anxiety, we confess that our faith falters, making way for cynicism or joyless resignation to a bleak future. Help us remember that your grace is unrestrainable, and that as agents of your love in the world, we carry a message and embody a mission which are more important, urgent, and powerful than any other god, message, plan, or platform. Help us to remember that by the power at work within us you are still and always able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine. In Christ's name and in the power of the Spirit we pray.

Amen.

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 Beth Meriwether Children and youth are invited to come forward.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 145: 14-18

*HYMN 795

"Healer of Our Every Ill" HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL

Refrain:

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow, give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

1You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

2 In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding, give us all your vision, God of love.

3 Give us strength to love each other, every sister, every brother; Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.

4 You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing; Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.

SECOND READING

John 6: 1-21

THIRD READING

Ephesians 3: 16-21

SERMON Keith Grogg "The Fragments Left Over: More than All We Can Ask or Imagine"

*HYMN 797

"We Cannot Measure How You Heal"
YE BANKS AND BRAES

1 We cannot measure how you heal or answer every sufferer's prayer, yet we believe your grace responds where faith and doubt unite to care. Your hands, though bloodied on the cross, survive to hold and heal and warn, to carry all through death to life and cradle children yet unborn.

2 The pain that will not go away, the guilt that clings from things long past, the fear of what the future holds, are present as if meant to last.

But present too is love which tends the hurt we never hoped to find, the private agonies inside, the memories that haunt the mind.

3 So some have come who need your help and some have come to make amends, as hands which shaped and saved the world are present in the touch of friends.

Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind, and soul, to disentangle peace from pain, and make your broken people whole.

*AFFIRMATION

From "A Declaration of Faith" (1979)

Jesus Christ stands at the center of the biblical record.

That story is still unfolding and in faith we make it our own.

It forms our memory and our hope.

It tells us who we are and what we are to do.

We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell.

The story itself tells us God works the divine, 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 in perfect freedom.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN 498 "Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"
BEACH SPRING

1 Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore. Jesus, Bread of Life from heaven, was their food forevermore. By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured, Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

2 Loaves were broken, words were spoken in a quiet room one night.
In the bread and wine you gave them,
Christ, you came as Light from Light.
By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

3 Loaves are broken, words are spoken, as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages:
"I am with you; do not fear!"
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us in your name to share bread for which the millions hunger, words that tell your love and care. By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured, Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Please stand as you are able

CHURCH STAFF

Margaret LaMotte Torrence, Transitional Pastor Ted Stewart, Interim Director of Music Andrew Tripp, Interim Church Administrator Leslie Sayyar, Brent Roberts; Treasurers Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

Coffee Hour Host: Joyce Cucinella and Betty Siviter
Liturgist: Sally Broughton
Greeter: Catherine Showalter
Elder of the Day: Natalie Daugherty

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME VISITORS If you are worshiping here for the first time today, welcome! We are glad to have you with us. Please fill out a visitor information card, located on the right as you enter the chapel.

OFFERING Plates are available just inside the doors to the chapel as you enter and exit. Our gifts take many forms: open-hearted presence here, voices lifted in song, the prayers that rise in us, the material gifts we share with neighbors, and our willingness to live in a world as allies and advocates for those whose needs are overlooked. The monies we bring symbolize the offering of our lives in all circumstances.

A separate labeled basket is available each week to receive Our Daily Change offerings, formerly known as Five Cents a Meal hunger offering.

WELCOMING REFUGEES If you would like to learn more about serving on a Circle of Welcome to assist a refugee family as they settle in our area, there is a handout available in the entryway, or you may contact Vicki Collins (<u>vcollins@warren-wilson.edu</u>, 828-712-0251).

20-25 families are expected to arrive in our area in the coming months, and the need is urgent. You do not need to be a member of the church, and no financial commitment is involved.

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

We celebrate:

a successful heart ablation procedure for Anne Dale, restoring her heart to healthy rhythm • A freshly painted administrator's office, thanks to Jim Storey! • Rodney and Sharon Lytle's 50 years of marriage, celebrated on July 13 • Donna Eagle Joslin's gift of bright summer blossoms in the planters that welcome us to the chapel • Jack Ballard's skillful work with broken chancel benches, and improved organ chamber access

We remember in prayer: Friends and family of Kim Reece, (daughter of Nancy and Rick Garrison), following her death on July 12 ° Friends and family of Austin Jordan, following his unexpected death on June 29 • the family of Elda Pineda, our faithful church cleaner, after her brother's death in El Salvador o Sandee Butterworth and family, following Milt's death on June 26 • Amanda Branscombe, as she consults with her cardiologist on August 1, in preparation for a spinal fusion surgery, scheduled for August 15 · Bill Christy, as he continues to heal following a heart transplant · Susan Laney, discharged from Care Partners for athome care. Cards are much appreciated. John will let us know when they are ready for visitors. • Bubba Lytle, Rodney and Sharon's son, making excellent progress recovering from a serious motorcycle accident o Thurman Slone, Joyce Cucinella's brother, now under Hospice care · Carol Lee Joslin, Blake Joslin's mother, suffering from Alzheimer's • Beth Newman, who is back at work but continuing to recover her strength following a bone marrow transplant · Elda Pineda's mother and father, Karmen Iraeta and Josue Victor Pineda, as she battles kidney and heart problems and as he recovers from cancer • 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 · Fran Roberts' sister-in-law, Linda Briggs o Jon Hettrick and his family o Marjorie Hettrick o Kim Reece (daughter of Nancy and Rick Garrison) · Shane Reece (Nancy Garrison's son) • Pat Wilson's son, Kell.

EXTRA TOTE-BAGS? SVCM has a new shower to be used by neighbors who don't have access to such facilities. We will schedule an assembly-line-project (soon!) to fill bags with requested showeritems. What we need right now are reusable tote bags (fabric or plastic) large enough to hold a towel and toiletry items. Please bring any bags you have to share. There will be a box in the narthex to collect them. With gratitude for all the ways you help!!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Greeters will welcome worshipers, offer bulletins and other worship resources to guests, and assist with a brief after-service cleanup of bulletins and hymnals.

Liturgists typically lead the Call to Worship, offer the Prayer for Illumination and the First Reading, and lead the Affirmation of Faith. All texts are supplied to readers.

Coffee-Hour Hosts make coffee (provided by the church), and put out snacks, juice, and water. (Hosts may choose to use snacks available at the church or bring refreshments to share.) Hosts have access to the parlor kitchen for clean up. Susan Daugherty and members of the Congregation Life Team are available to answer questions or provide assistance.

Sign-up sheets are available in the entryway. We'd love to have you participate!

RECEPTION HELP If you would like to contribute finger food to be served at the reception honoring Milt Butterworth on the afternoon of Saturday, August 17, please contact Susan Daugherty, moderator of our Congregational Life Team, by e-mailing sdaugh56@gmail.com.

GUEST PREACHER Keith Grogg has been the pastor of Montreat Presbyterian Church since April, 2014. Keith and his spouse, former WWPC director of music Vivian Hare, have two young adult children, John and Clara. Keith was a PC(USA) Mission Volunteer in Bedford, England and has pastored churches in Kannapolis and Carolina Beach, NC. He is completing a D.Min. in Christian Spirituality through Columbia Seminary.

Margaret is on vacation this weekend, but will be back in the office on Tuesday. Jamie Dale is available to respond to pastoral emergencies at (828) 450-3672.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS Monday through Friday, 9:00-3:00.

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BUTTERWORTH MEMORIAL A service of thanksgiving for the life of Milt Butterworth will be held in the chapel on Saturday, August 17 at 2:00, with a reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

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Call to Worship: Jane Kenyon, "Briefly It Enters, and Briefly Speaks" (excerpted) in Kenyon, Collected Poems (Graywolf Press, 2005). Copyright © 2005 by the Estate of Jane Kenyon. graywolfpress.org.

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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!