Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

August 4, 2024
11th Sunday after Pentecost



"The children are always ours,
every single one of them,
all over the globe…"

James Baldwin

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
11th Sunday after Pentecost
August 4, 2024
11:00 a.m.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Deuteronomy 30: 11-14 Ken Murchison

God speaks through the prophet, saying:
"Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today
is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away."

It is not in heaven, that we should say,
"Who will go up to heaven for us,
and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?"

Neither is it beyond the sea, that we should say,
"Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us,
and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?"

No, the word is very near to us;
it is in our mouths and in our hearts for us to observe.

***HYMN 301** "Let Us Build a House"
TWO OAKS

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:
all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: (Refrain)

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine, and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: (Refrain)

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: (Refrain)

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured,
taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: (Refrain)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Endlessly merciful God,
your embrace is wider than our wanderings
and deeper than our estrangements.
Receive, again, your broken and bewildered people.
Forgive our folly and our excess,
our indifference to human sorrow,
the way resentment simmers in our hearts.
In holy love, meet us where we are,
call us your own,
and knit us to each other,
until every lost or lonely one knows the joy of home.

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 584)** "Glory, Glory, Glory"

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!
And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased.

***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 John 16: 5-15

***HYMN 692** "Spirit, Open My Heart"
WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Refrain:
Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.

1 God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender. (Refrain)

2 Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory. (Refrain)

3 May I weep with those who weep;
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. (Refrain)

SECOND READING Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

SERMON Margaret LaMotte Torrence
"More to Learn"

***AFFIRMATION** Confession of 1967 – inclusive language version

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world
as God's reconciling community.
This community, the church universal,
is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation
and shares God's labor of healing the enmities
which separate people from God and from each other.
Christ has called the church to this mission
and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.
The church maintains continuity with the apostles
and with Israel
by faithful obedience to his call.

***HYMN 533** "In the Singing"
BREAD OF PEACE

Leader or All:
1 In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant, open,
in the blessing, in the breaking,
in the Presence at this table

Refrain (All):
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the wine of grace:
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the bread of peace.

Leader or All:
2 In the question, in the answer,
in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart's cry, in the healing,
in the circle of your people (Refrain)

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation

The Table Prayer *(responses below)*

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 our 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 us 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.

Sharing a Taste of Home

The bread is gluten-free; the juice is not fermented, with the hope that all may freely participate.
When you come forward for communion, you will be offered a piece of bread. You will then have two options for receiving juice: you may take the bread and dip it in a common cup, or if you would prefer to have a personal serving of juice, separate glass cups will be available. Please follow whichever practice feels more meaningful to you.

Giving Thanks

***HYMN 536** "Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"
SURGE ECCLESIA

1 Rise, O church, like Christ arisen,
from this meal of love and grace;
may we through such love envision
whose we are, and whose, our praise.
Alleluia, alleluia:
God, the wonder of our days.

2 Rise, transformed, and choose to follow
after Christ, though wounded, whole;
broken, shared, our lives are hallowed
to release and to console.
Alleluia, alleluia:
Christ, our present, past, and goal.

3 Rise, remember well the future
God has called us to receive;
present by God's loving nurture,
Spirited then let us live.
Alleluia, alleluia:
Spirit, grace by whom we live.

4 Service be our sure vocation;
courage be our daily breath;
mercy be our destination
from this day and unto death.
Alleluia, alleluia.
Rise, O church, a living faith.

***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: Sally Broughton and Toby Ives
Liturgist: Ken Murchison
Greeter: John Bishop
Elder of the Day: Sally Broughton

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.

CONVERSATION FOLLOWING WORSHIP TODAY As we prepare to welcome students for a new year, it has come to the session's attention that some students feel apprehensive even about entering the chapel, because they suspect they might not be welcomed as they are.
The session has decided to hang a "rainbow flag" to the left of the chapel doors, parallel to the statement of welcome that hangs on the right. We hope that the symbols and text, hanging on either side of the cross, will invite a rich conversation about how we show up in the world as those who want to keep learning from our neighbors, and together experiencing the transformative love of God.

If you would like to ask questions, offer feedback, or hear the thoughts of others, you are invited to get a cup of coffee and return to the chapel immediately following worship.

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 (vcollins@warren-wilson.edu, 828-712- 0251).
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: abundant volunteers to form a **Circle of Welcome** for a refugee family ◦ **a successful heart ablation procedure for Anne Dale**, restoring her heart to healthy rhythm

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 ◦ **Sandee Butterworth and family, following Milt's death** on June 26 ◦ **Amanda Branscombe,** following consultation with her cardiologist on August 1. Amanda is having additional tests, with the continued hope of being cleared for spinal fusion surgery on August 15 ◦ **Bill Christy,** as he continues to heal following a heart transplant ◦ **Susan Laney**, discharged from Care Partners for at-home 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 ◦ **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** ◦ **Jon Hettrick and his family** ◦ **Marjorie Hettrick** ◦ **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 are**

collecting reusable tote bags (fabric or plastic) large enough to hold a towel and toiletry items.

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.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS Monday - Friday, 9:00-3:00. This week Andrew will be part of the college's Educators Retreat Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9 and will be mostly out of the office both days.

✠

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.

✠

Cover image: Photo by Sandy Kumar on Unsplash

Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

101 Chapel Lane
Swannanoa, NC 28778
(828) 298-9092
www.warrenwilsonchurch.org

WarrenWilsonPC WarrenWilsonPresbyterianChurch @WarrenWilsonPC

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!