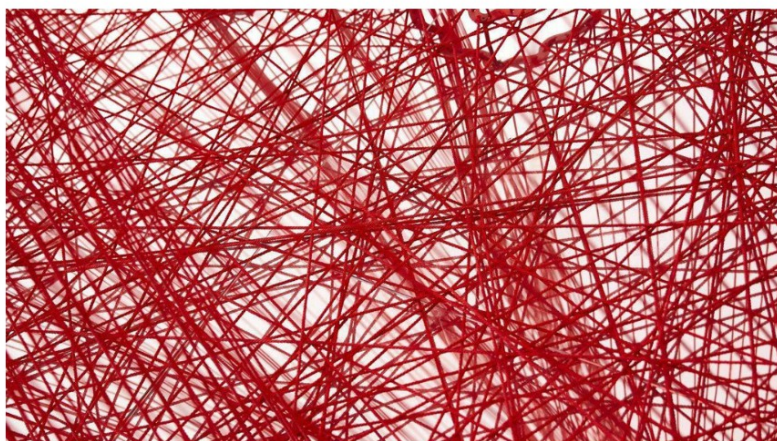


# Warren Wilson

## Presbyterian Church

February 2, 2025



The world now is too dangerous  
and too beautiful for anything but love.  
May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone.  
Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor.  
May your hands be so blessed  
that everything you touch is a sacrament.  
Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love.  
May your feet be so blessed you run  
to those who need you.  
And may your heart be so opened,  
so set on fire, that your love,  
your love, changes everything.

- From the Black Rock Prayer Book

# Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

February 2, 2025 11:00 AM

### GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** based on Psalm 71:1-6 Beth Meriwether

In you, O God, we find a place of refuge.

**We have known you and your righteousness  
as far back as we can remember.**

You, O God, are the foundation of our hope, the source of our trust;

**We praise you continually, O God, for being a rock to lean on  
and safe place to rest from the time of our birth.**

**\*HYMN 14**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX

1 For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies:

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon, and stars of light: (Refrain)

3 For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind’s delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight: (Refrain)

4 For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild: (Refrain)

5 For thyself, best gift divine  
to the world so freely given;  
for that great, great love of thine,  
peace on earth and joy in heaven: (Refrain)

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (responsive)

Love is patient and kind;

**Lord it is hard to be patient when there is so much we need and want to do. When other people slow us down, it is easy to forget to be kind. Forgive us.**

Love is not jealous or conceited or proud;

**But we are, God. We look at some people and think we are better than they are, that we know more, that we are always in the right. We look at others and feel jealous of their positions of power or wealth. Forgive us.**

Love is not ill-mannered, or selfish, or irritable;

**But we sometimes blurt out accusations or words that hurt. Forgive us.**

Love does not keep a record of wrongs;

**But we remember even those wrongs we have really tried to forgive. We remember and we bring them up when we are angry or when we want our own way. We use the past to hurt even the people we love. Forgive us and help us to forgive.**

Love is not happy with evil; love is happy with truth;

**But it is hard not to take secret delight when people get what we think they have coming to them. Forgive us.**

*(time for silent confession)*

**CONFSSIONAL RESPONSE** (sung)      Though I May Speak  
Hymn 693 verse 3

**Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control;**

**Our spirits long to be made whole.**

**Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship,  
and are freed.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from Mark 12:30-31)

“Which commandment is the first of all?”

**The first is ‘the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’**

**The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.**

**\*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 of all ages are invited to come forward.*

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST READING**

Psalm 71 (selected verses) Paraphrased from The Message

**ANTHEM** “Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation” Dale Wood

*For Text and Reflection, Turn to Hymn # 394.*

**SECOND READING**

1 Corinthians 13

**SERMON**

Rev. Dr. Laurie Furr-Vancini

**\*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.

## **SERVICE OF THE LORD'S TABLE**

Words of Institution

Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Table

Sharing the Bread and Cup

### **\*HYMN #300**

**"We Are One in the Spirit"**

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

1 We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2 We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;  
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (Refrain)

3 We will work with each other; we will work side by side;  
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,  
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (Refrain)

4 All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: (Refrain)

### **\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

\*Please stand as you are able

#### **CHURCH STAFF**

Laurie Furr-Vancini, Transitional Pastor

Ted Stewart, Interim Director of Music

Andrew Tripp, Church Administrator

Leslie Sayyar and Brent Roberts, Treasurers

Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

**Elder of the Day:** Sally Broughton

**Coffee Hour Host:** Susan Daugherty

**Sound/Video:** Derron Daugherty

**Liturgist:** Beth Meriwether

## 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.

**COMMUNITY JOYS AND CONCERNS:** If you would like to add or update a prayer request, please contact the church office.

**We remember in prayer:** The family of **Will Dale, Jamie's brother**, following his death on January 29 ◦ The family of **Patrice Lytle, Rodney and Sharon's neice**, following her death. ◦ The family of **Jack and Sue Allison**, on the death of **Jack's brother Robin**. ◦ **Vicki Collins**, recovering from shoulder surgery ◦ **Wanda Mitchell, friend of Sally Broughton**, has been referred to hospice care after a hospitalization for pneumonia. ◦ **Mary Craig** as she recovers from back surgery ◦ **Dina Taylor, Barbara Escalante's sister**, recovering from surgery in California on December 2, for a brain bleed. ◦ all who continue to be affected by loss caused by recent storms. In our congregation, we remember especially **Andrew Tripp, Cindy and Dennis Riley, Jackie Wintle, Joyce Cucinella, and Bob, the father of Natalie's partner Jeff** ◦ **Amanda Branscombe**, as she continues to recover from spinal fusion surgery ◦ **Bill Christy**, as he continues to heal following a heart transplant ◦ **Susan Laney**, receiving therapy at home ◦ Ongoing prayers for the extended **Lytle family** ◦ **Jackie Ligon Cole** ◦ **Pat Crumpler** ◦ **Martha Dugger** ◦ **Rick Garrison** ◦ **Houston Huggins (Beth Meriwether's brother)** ◦ **Fran Roberts' sister-in-law, Linda Briggs** ◦ **Jon Hettrick and his family** ◦ **Marjorie Hettrick** ◦ **Shane Reece (Nancy Garrison's son)** ◦ **Pat Wilson's son, Kell**

**HABITAT VOLUNTEER DAYS IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH** Faith partner volunteers, including 10 from our church, made great progress helping Habitat build new affordable homes in Arden last fall, and there is a new opportunity for volunteers to help from February 4-March 22. We have spaces reserved on the volunteer schedule for Fridays Feb 14 and March 7, and Saturdays Feb. 15 and March 8, and many other dates are available. No special skills or tools are needed, only a willingness to help. If you have questions about this important mission project, contact Larry Griswold ([larrygris@gmail.com](mailto:larrygris@gmail.com)).

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASS** We meet **Sundays at 9:30 in the Adult Ed room**. The book that we are currently focusing on is John Pavlovitz's Worth Fighting For: Finding Courage & Compassion When Cruelty is Trending. This book seems particularly relevant in these days in which we are living. Contact Beth Meriwether (828-777-2867) with any questions. All are welcome.

**TOGATHER** We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month through May at 1:30 PM in the chapel parlor. Please know that all are welcome and there are no expectations. This is a time to build and strengthen relationships, spend some time in quiet reflection and prayer, learn and practice calming and relaxation skills, and share resources. January would be a great time to begin. Contact Beth Meriwether (828-777-2867) for information.

**MISSION STUDY UPDATE** Thank you for your participation in our Mission Study Questionnaire. The questionnaire responses are being collated, and a narrative is being created. In the next few weeks, your Mission Study Team will be at work pulling together the pieces of the Mission Study and creating a document which will serve as a "snapshot" of Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church. The team hopes to complete their work this month and present the Mission Study to your session, the entire church, and the Presbytery of Western North Carolina Commission on Ministry by March.

**SOUPER BOWL** In 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group: “Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.” Since then, close to \$200 million has been generated for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that transforms the time around the Big Game into the nation’s largest celebration of giving and caring for those in need. Through this mission, people learn they can make a positive difference in the world as they collect food, raise money and serve at hunger-relief charities and show caring and compassion in local communities across the country. Share in God’s love for our neighbors in need and give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday during worship on **February 9**. All of the donations collected will go toward feeding programs in the Swannanoa Valley.

**NEW SANCTUARY PIANO** The funding for the new sanctuary piano purchased in November was provided by existing church resources: endowment funds, designated funds, and prior year surplus funds. If anyone would like to make an additional contribution for the piano to help replenish these church sources, that would be most welcome. Should you wish to contribute please indicate that you are giving to the piano fund.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** The **Annual Congregational Meeting of Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church will be on February 9, 2025** at the end of our 11:00 worship service. We will: receive a 2024 written annual report from our ministry areas, be given the 2025 budget for information, and hear an update on the Mission Study.



**Warren Wilson  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Swannanoa, NC 28778  
(828) 298-9092

[www.warrenwilsonchurch.org](http://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!*