Warren Wilson
Presbyterian Church

March 2, 2025



Transfiguration

"For that one moment, 'in and out of time',
On that one mountain where all moments meet,
The daily veil that covers the sublime
In darkling glass fell dazzled at his feet.
There were no angels full of eyes and wings
Just living glory full of truth and grace.
The Love that dances at the heart of things
Shone out upon us from a human face
And to that light the light in us leaped up,
We felt it quicken somewhere deep within,
A sudden blaze of long-extinguished hope
Trembled and tingled through the tender skin.
Nor can this blackened sky, this darkened scar
Eclipse that glimpse of how things really are."

- Malcolm Guite

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday

March 2, 2025 11:00 AM

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "On Wings of Song" Felix Mendelssohn
Brea Cyphert, Oboe

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive) Winn Legerton

We come together today before the God we worship. We will hear of others who were struck with awe and wonder. I wonder if we can be awed, as we wonder together.

For we also come as hardened skeptics, who can hardly be surprised by anything.

In the midst of this world is God, our radiant source of love and hope and joy we so desperately need.

We worship together today as we seek and give thanks for God in our midst.

***HYMN 12** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"
ST. DENIO

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy Light, something embedded in the soul whispers: "All is made for light". But our proud ignorance shouts louder, and lead us back into the dark lies and prejudices of an evil world.

Holy Peace, something deep in us says: "All is made for harmony", but the discords within me joins with the noise of the world around me, and we slip back into distrust and protection.

Holy Love, something in our human spirit sings: "All is made for justice and compassion". But fear and greed quiet the song, and we give in to neglect and injustice. (silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

Liberating and healing God, by the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and delivered from all the powers of darkness. In the light of Christ may we walk with sure footing.
In Christ, we are beloved children of God, and that is the great good news of all time.

***RESPONSE** 582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

A TIME FOR CHILD IN ALL OF US

Children and youth of all ages are invited to come forward.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Exodus 34:29-35

ANTHEM "Praise My Soul. The King Of Heaven" Mark Andrews

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore his praises sing;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting king!

Father like He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels in the height adore Him! Ye behold Him face to face;
Saints triumphant bow before Him! Gathered in from every race.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace. Amen, Amen.

SECOND LESSON Luke 9:28-36

SERMON Rev. Dr. Laurie Furr-Vancini

***HYMN 507** ”Come to the Table of Grace”
TABLE OF GRACE

1 Come to the table of grace.
Come to the table of grace.
This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine.
Come to the table of grace.

2 Come to the table of peace…

3 Come to the table of love…

4 Come to the table of hope…

5 Come to the table of joy…

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S TABLE

Words of Institution
Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer
Invitation to the Table
Receiving the Bread and the Cup
Prayer

***HYMN 749** **“**Come! Live in the Light”
WE ARE CALLED

1 Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called
to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom
of the city of God.

Refrain:
We are called to act with justice;
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

2 Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called
to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and violence
will be no more. (Refrain)

3 Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign,
and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers
united in love. (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: Leslie Sayyar
Liturgist: Winn Legerton
Coffee Hour Host: Jackie Wintle and Joyce Cucinella

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, and place it in the offering plate.

OFFERING Plates are available just inside the doors to the chapel. 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 offering.

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

We celebrate: The Mission Study Team for their ongoing work. ◦ **Jim Storey** and his efforts to get us better lighting in the narthex and parlor, as well as better electrical access at the chancel.

We remember in prayer: Bob Gambrell, having surgery to receive and artificial heart valve on March 7 ◦ **Arden Starnes, her family, and her caregivers** ◦ **Vicki Collins,** recovering from shoulder surgery ◦ **Wanda Mitchell, friend of Sally Broughton,** has been referred to hospice care after a hospitalization for pneumonia. ◦ 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** ◦ **Susan Laney**, receiving therapy at home ◦ Ongoing prayers for the extended **Lytle family** ◦ **Mary Craig** ◦ **Jackie Ligon Cole** ◦ **Pat Crumpler** ◦ **Martha Dugger** ◦ **Rick Garrison** ◦ **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**

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS NEXT WEEK Don't forget to Spring Forward and turn your clock ahead one hour.

PANCAKE SUPPER Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper is March 4th at 6:00 PM - one last hurrah before we begin Lent! Sign up in the narthex to be a pancake cooker, or to bring a protein, egg casserole (meat,vegetarian,or vegan), or fruit. King cake will be provided. Please join us for a fun evening and wear those Mardi Gras beads!

ASH WEDNESDAY marks the beginning of Lent in the church year. Receiving ashes marks our humanity as people of the earth. Join us in the Fellowship Hall this Wednesday, March 5 at 6:00 PM for our Ash Wednesday Service.
If you would like to be a reader for our Ash Wednesday service, please get a reading from Laurie after worship this morning.

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES The Swannanoa Valley Ministerial Alliance is having a community Lenten service every Wednesday at noon from March 5-April 16, with a Good Friday service on April 18. Each will be led by a different church (we are leading the April 2 service). All services will be hosted at Black Mountain UMC and will be followed by a free community meal provided by Open Table.

TOGATHER We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month through May at 1:30 PM in the chapel parlor. This is a time where all are welcome to build and strengthen relationships, spend some time in quiet reflection and prayer, learn and practice calming and relaxation skills, and share resources. This is an open group; feel free to come whenever you are able. Contact Beth Meriwether (828-777-2867) for more information.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS We meet **Sundays at 9:30 in the Adult Ed room**. In March we will begin reading and discussing the book, Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms, by Elizabeth F. Caldwell. **All are welcome** at any time, even if you haven't read the book. Please contact Beth Meriwether at 828-777-2867 or bethmeriwether@gmail.com for more information.

EMPTY BOWLS Empty Bowls is a fundraising dinner organized by Warren Wilson's Community Engagement Crew, which will take place March 19 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All bowls are provided by current ceramics students and you get to take your bowl home with you at the end of the evening! This year's cash recipient will be Blunt Pretzel, specifically their Blunt Kitchen program, which provides free hot meals in Swannanoa. Tickets for Empty Bowls will be on sale outside of the Chapel for an hour both before an after service for $25. Also on sale are raffle tickets for $2 each. Cash, card, and check accepted, as well as Venmo upon request.

SVCM Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry is in need of: small mens' sized jeans, mens' small/medium sized underwear (new, unopened packs), childrens' 4T-5T clothing (especially girls), queen and king sheet sets, queen and king blankets, towels, hand towels, and washcloths. Deliver to SVCM at 101 N Ridgeway Ave, Black Mountain.

The cover art:
The Transfiguration, Preobrazhensky Monastery, Yaroslavl
In this piece of a larger picture, Jesus and the disciples go up the Galilee side of the mountain and come down the Jerusalem side. The sonnet Transfiguration on the front of the bulletin is by poet and Episcopal priest, Maocolm Guite, found in the collection Sounding the Season, published by Canterbury Press

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!