Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

April 6, 2025



Warren Wilson in the Springtime

Student Led Worship

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

STUDENT LED WORSHIP
5th Sunday in Lent
April 6, 2025 11:00 AM

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Alex Curcio

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

We come to worship because we long for mercy.
We long for community. We long for God.
We come to worship because we need a good word.
We need connection. We need reminders.
We come to worship because we are in between:
hope and grief, faith and doubt, joy and longing, curiosity and conviction.
So we come to worship and God meets us here.
Surely, we are not alone. Thanks be to God for meeting us in the middle. Amen!

***HYMN 401** "Here in This Place" GATHER US IN

1 Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 We are the young; our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.

3 Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Gracious God, who calls us to be your people in this age, forgive us when we keep Christ in the past, and the Gospel as letters on a page, and the church as an organization in which we may or may not participate.

Forgive us when fellowship and mission is meant for and delivered to those we already know and love and we become a social club instead of your church. Forgive us and have mercy upon us, O God. Let your risen Christ reside here with us, and the Gospel be the power of our life, and the church be a people and place of showing your love wherever we may be.
Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's grace is abundant! God's love is never ending. Friends, the Gospel affirms, In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

PASSING OF THE PEACE
May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Mac Ware
Children and youth of all ages are invited to come forward.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON Psalm 126

ANTHEM "Cherry Blossom Rain" Luke Wheelen

SECOND LESSON John 12:1-8

SERMON Mae Craig

***HYMN 526** "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" LINSTEAD

1 Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured;
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain:
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

2 Christ is able to make us one;
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express. (Refrain)

3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere! (Refrain)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (responsive)

One: Together let us affirm our common faith:
All: We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God who has created and is creating; who has come to us in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new; who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church, to celebrate God's presence; to live with respect in creation; to love and serve others; to seek justice and resist evil; to proclaim Jesus' message of hope, inclusion, and grace. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE Rev. Dr. Shannon Spencer
Prayer of Great Thanksgiving
Words of Institution
Invitation to the Table
Receiving the Bread and Cup Rev. Dr. Laurie Furr-Vancini
Prayer (after Communion)

***HYMN 761** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" BEECHER

1 Called as partners in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfill God's chosen end.

2 Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.

3 Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.

4 So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Mac Ware

POSTLUDE Stella Heon

*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
Coffee Hour Host: Sarah Anne Eller and Alex Collins

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 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 celebrate: Donna Eagle Joslin and Elizabeth Cook for the flowers in the big planters in front of the Chapel ◦

We remember in prayer: Joanne Lincoln's continued recovery at Highland Farms Healthcare Center ◦ **Arden Starnes, her family, and her caregivers** ◦ 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**

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE – All are welcome!
Palm Sunday – Worship with Palm Processional April 13 at 11:00 AM in the Chapel
Cemetery Walk and Storytelling – Wednesday, April 16 1:00-3:00 PM Meet at the Cemetery
Maundy Thursday Service – April 17 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall
Good Friday Service – Black Mountain UMC at 12:00 PM
Easter Potluck Brunch and Celebration – 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall
Easter Worship – 11:00 AM in the Chapel

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES The Swannanoa Valley Ministerial Alliance is having a community Lenten service every Wednesday at noon through April 16, with a Good Friday service on April 18. All services will be hosted at Black Mountain UMC and will be followed by a free community meal provided by Open Table.

PHOTO REQUEST In preparation for the centennial celebration, we want your old pictures of the church. The older the better! Please find any photos of the church or church activities in the current chapel, Williams building, Sunderland, or before and give them to Kay Stockdale. We can scan and print them if you'd like to keep the original. Please put your name and any info you have on the back of the photo.

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**. **All are welcome** at any time. Please contact Beth Meriwether at 828-777-2867 or bethmeriwether@gmail.com for more information.

SVCM Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry is in need of: small mens' jeans, mens' small/medium underwear (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.

EASTER LILIES On Easter Sunday we brighten the Chapel with Easter Lilies. You can purchase a lily for $12 and have it placed in honor or in memory of someone. Lily orders are due April 13 and can be taken home following the Easter service on April 20.

EASTER BRUNCH On April 20 at 9:30 we are having our Easter Brunch. Bring breakfast dish to share and come celebrate the season with your friends! An Easter Egg hunt will follow after the church service.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Our next newsletter is being prepared for for a Holy Week release. The deadline for submitting articles or suggestions is April 7. Please send to andrew-tripp@warren-wilson.edu.

Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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!