

# Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

April 20, 2025



## Easter

Just when I thought  
there would be no more light  
in the Jerusalem sky,  
the Bright and Morning Star  
appeared  
and the darkness has not overcome it.

- Ann Weems

## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

*Easter Sunday*

April 20, 2025 11:00 AM

### PRELUDE

### GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

He is risen

**He is risen indeed!**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

Don Collins

My dear friends, we have known grief. We have known loss.

We have known the long road, tired and winding.

We have whispered prayers on bended knees.

We have stared at the sky, empty of stars. But today—

**today we know hope.**

Today we know life.

**Today we know the sound of Alleluias.**

Today we know that death does not have the last word.

**Today we know that nothing can separate us from  
the love of God.**

It is Easter. May hope find you.

And may you know, deep in your bones, that today is a new day.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*HYMN 232**

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

1 Jesus Christ is risen today,

Alleluia!

our triumphant holy day,

Alleluia!

who did once upon the cross,

Alleluia!

suffer to redeem our loss.

Alleluia!

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing,

Alleluia!

unto Christ, our heavenly King,

Alleluia!

who endured the cross and grave,

Alleluia!

sinner to redeem and save.

Alleluia!

3 But the pains which he endured,  
Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured.  
Alleluia!  
Now above the sky he's King,  
Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing.  
Alleluia!

4 Sing we to our God above,  
Alleluia!  
praise eternal as God's love.  
Alleluia!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host,  
Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia!

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

**Forgive us, God,**  
**when good news lands in our lap and we refuse to believe it.**  
**Forgive us, God,**  
**when grief and fear crowd out any room in our hearts for**  
**hope.**  
**Forgive us, God,**  
**when we dismiss the stories of others**  
**and minimize the voices of our neighbors.**  
**In a world that teeters between grief and hope,**  
**show us how to hold onto hope.**  
**Show us how to run toward you.**  
**Amen.**

## **WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

### **\*RESPONSE TO GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

#240 stanza 2

***Refrain:***  
***Alleluia, alleluia!***  
***Give thanks to the risen Lord.***  
***Alleluia, alleluia!***  
***Give praise to his name***

***Spread the good news o'er all the earth:***  
***Jesus has died and has risen. (Refrain)***

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

## A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

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

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 25:6-9

### ANTHEM “Hail The Day That Sees Him Rise” Robert J. Powell

*Hail the day that sees Him rise, Alleluia!  
To His throne above the skies, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!  
Enters now the highest heaven, Alleluia!*

*There the glorious triumph waits,  
Lift your heads, eternal gates. Alleluia!  
Christ hath conquered death ad sin, Alleluia!  
Take the King of glory in. Alleluia!*

*See He lifts His hands above, Alleluia! See!  
He shows the prints of love, Alleluia!  
Hark! His gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!  
Blessings on His Church below, Alleluia!*

*Lord, beyond our mortal sight,  
Raise our hearts to reach Thy height,  
There Thy face unclouded see,  
Find our heaven of heavens in thee, Alleluia!*

### SECOND LESSON

Luke 24:1-12

### SERMON

Rev. Dr. Laurie Furr-Vancini

### \*HYMN 526 “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” LINSTAD

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)

## SERVICE OF THE LORD'S TABLE

Words of Institution

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Invitation to the Table

Receiving the Bread and the Cup

Prayer

### \*HYMN 238

"Thine Is the Glory"

JUDAS MACCABEUS

1 Thine is the glory,  
risen, conquering Son;  
endless is the victory  
thou o'er death hast won.  
Angels in bright raiment  
rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes  
where thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory,  
risen, conquering Son;  
endless is the victory  
thou o'er death hast won.

2 Lo! Jesus meets us,  
risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us,  
scatters fear and gloom.  
Let the church with gladness  
hymns of triumph sing,  
for the Lord now liveth;  
death hath lost its sting. (Refrain)

3 No more we doubt thee,  
glorious Prince of life!  
Life is naught without thee;  
aid us in our strife.  
Make us more than conquerors  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan  
to thy home above. (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

**Liturgist:** Don Collins  
**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, 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:** A wonderful **Easter Brunch** thanks to the members of the **Congregational Life Committee** ◦ **Winn Legerton** for leading the Maundy Thursday service ◦ **all of the students** that led our worship service on April 7

**We remember in prayer:** **Joanne Lincoln** with hospice 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

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** Today we join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. See today's insert for ways to give and please give generously!

**EASTER EGG HUNT** Stay after worship today for more Easter fun with our Easter Egg Hunt. Baskets are available if you didn't bring yours.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** There will be a Called Congregational Meeting after worship next Sunday, April 27, to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL** The Ice Cream Social will be on May 4<sup>th</sup> after the church service in the Fellowship Hall and on the porch. Come for fun and to say Happy Summer to our college students! Toppings, cookies, and ice cream provided by the Congregational Life Ministry Team. All are welcome!

**FAREWELL OLIVIA** Also on May 4<sup>th</sup>, we will say goodbye to our College Work Crew superstar, Olivia Crescitelli. She has been on the Chapel Crew for three years, but it is time for her to graduate and move on towards her goal of earning a Master's in Museum Studies.

**PHOTO REQUEST** 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 on the back of the photo.

**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 [bethmeriwether@gmail.com](mailto:bethmeriwether@gmail.com) for more information.

**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.

Cover image *Twa Erzuil* by Haitian artist Fracoise Eranssaint, 1991

Liturgy by Sarah A. Speed/A Sanctified Art, LLC



**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!*