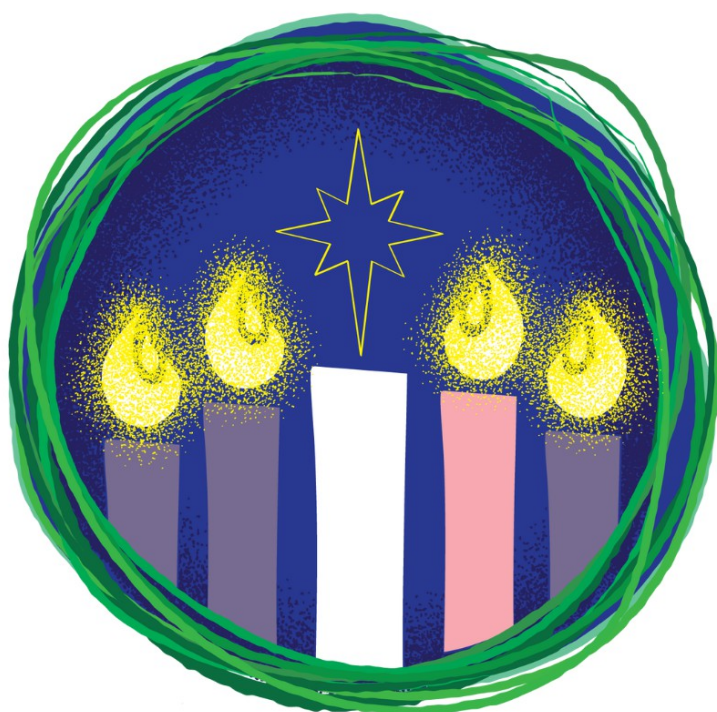


**Warren Wilson
Presbyterian Church**

December 21, 2025



LOVE

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

4th Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025 11:00 AM

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“People, Look East”

Wayne L. Wold

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Hear these words of promise from the prophet Nathan, spoken to David: “Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.

And hear Mary’s song of mercy:

“God’s mercy extends to those who fear the Lord, from generation to generation. God has helped Israel, in remembering to be merciful.”

***HYMN 105**

“People, Look East”

BESANÇON

1 People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able;
trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.

Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled.

Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Bird, is on the way.

4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,

shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Star, is on the way.

5 Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

CANDLE LIGHTING

PRAYER (unison)

God of Love, in this Advent season, we long for love to take root in our hearts and overflow from your mercy into a world aching to be held. As we light this candle, kindle in us a love that lifts the lowly, that welcomes the stranger, that remembers your mercy from generation to generation. Lord Jesus, let your love cast out all fear. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE & JOY

***ADVENT RESPONSE**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #88 Verse 6

*O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

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

Luke 2:8-12

ANTHEM

“Tomorrow Shall Be my Dancing Day”

Arr. Richard Shephard

*Tomorrow shall be my dancing day, I would my true love did so
chance,
To see the legend of my play, To call my true love to my dance.
Refrain:
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love. This have I done for my true
love.*

*Then was I born of a virgin pure, Of her I took fleshly substance,
Thus was I knit to man's nature, To call by true love to my dance.
Refrain*

*In a manger laid, and wrapped I was, So very poor, this was my
chance,*

Between an ox and silly poorass, To call my true love to my dance.

Refrain

*Then afterwards baptized I was, The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above to call my true love to my dance.*

Refrain

*Tomorrow shall be dancing day. I would my true love did so chance,
To see the legend of my play, To call my true love to my dance.*

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Psalm 118

SERMON

Rev Dr Laurie Furr-Vancini

***HYMN 110**

“Love Has Come”

BRING A TORCH

1 Love has come: a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers.
Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.

3 Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PREAYER

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.

***HYMN 137**

“He Came Down”

HE CAME DOWN

He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

(Additional stanzas)

... that we may have light
... that we may have peace
... that we may have joy

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us”

David Polley

*Please rise in body and/or spirit

CHURCH STAFF

Laurie Furr-Vancini, Transitional Pastor

Ted Stewart, Director of Music

Andrew Tripp, Church Administrator

Leslie Sayyar and Brent Roberts, Treasurers

Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

Liturgists: Natalie Daugherty, Cadence, Carolynne, Harriet

Fellowship Time: Joyce & Chris

Elder of the Day: Natalie Daugherty

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 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.

END OF YEAR GIVING If you plan to make a year-end gift, please note these deadlines: To have your gifts counted as a 2025 donation, you must postmark your checks (or deliver them to the church) by December 31. For online gifts, the Presbyterian Foundation must process the payment by December 31.

Thanks be to God for all you have done, are doing, and will do for the ministry of Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church.

HELPERS NEEDED to assist the **Habitat for Humanity** construction crew build House of Faith #5 in West Asheville. We have half day (8:15 - noon) shifts reserved on the volunteer calendar for Friday, Jan. 16 and Feb. 27, and full day shifts (8:15 - 3) on Saturday, Jan. 24, Feb. 7 and Feb. 28. Work will be indoors in heated spaces, or outdoors if weather permits. No experience is needed, only a willingness to help. Contact Larry Griswold if you have questions or to sign up.

NAMETAGS It's time again to update our nametags for Sunday mornings. If you don't have a nametag or yours needs refreshing, please sign up in the narthex.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The church office will be closed December 26 and 29 as well as January 1.

COMMUNITY YOGA This class is open to anyone and meets Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:00 AM in the downstairs youth room of the Education Building

TAI CHI/QIGONG PRACTICE CLASS Mondays, 2:30 PM, in the WWPC Lower Fellowship Hall.

CHRISTMAS EVE Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship service will be at 7:00 PM on December 24 in the Chapel.

POINSETTIAS The poinsettias in the chapel are here to help celebrate the Christmas season, and can be taken home following the Christmas Eve service. They have been given:

In Memory of:

John & Flora Bishop by John Bishop & Brent Roberts

George & Anne Collins by Janice Collins & James Storey

Will & Nancy Dale by Anne & Jamie Dale

Our Parents by Anne & Jamie Dale

Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Daugherty, Sr. by Derron and Susan Daugherty

Elva Hardy by Patrick and Patricia Hardy

Robert Hardy by Patrick and Patricia Hardy

Emmy Lou & Fitz Legerton by Winn Legerton

Mike Levi by Alisa B White

Joanne Lincoln by Alisa B White

Kathe Mosher by Alisa B White

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Orthel by Derron & Susan Daugherty

Harry & Louise Roberts by John Bishop & Brent Roberts

My husband, John by Catherine Showalter

Ray Stock by Alisa B White

George & Irene Storey by Janice Collins & James Storey

Dr. Steven A Williams by Alisa B White

Dr. Steve Williams by Patsy Agee & Ed Williams

Steve Williams by Betty Siviter

Al Wilson by Patricia Hardy

John J Young, Sr. by Winn Legerton

In Honor of:

Pat Crumpler by Betty Siviter

Elinor & Sarah Dale-Schmidt by Anne & Jamie Dale

Laurie Furr-Vancini by Anonymous

the staff for their creativity and dedication by Anonymous

Laurie for her ministry as transitional pastor by Anonymous

John & Susan Laney by Alisa B White

Chrisann Ohler & The Centennial Committee by Mary Wheeler

Ross & Mallory by Barbara & Larry Griswold

Bulletin Art Courtesy of Columbia Theological Seminary

Liturgy Contributor: Leemei Sophia Laktuhu



Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WarrenWilsonPC



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@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!*