

**Warren Wilson
Presbyterian Church**

March 22, 2026



Thus says the Lord GOD
to these bones:
I will cause breath
to enter you,
and you shall live.”

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

5th Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026 11:00 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “O World, I Now Must Leave Thee (Opus 122)”
Johannes Brahms

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 67:3-5 Ken Murchison

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

Let all the peoples praise you!

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

**For you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

Let all the peoples praise you!

***HYMN OF PRAISE 49** “The God of Abraham Praise” LEONI

1 The God of Abraham praise,
who reigns enthroned above,
the Ancient of Eternal Days,
the God of love!

The Lord, the great I am,
by earth and heaven confessed,
we bow before your holy name,
forever blest.

2 Your spirit still flows free,
high surging where it will.
In prophet's word you spoke of old
and you speak still.

Established is your law,
and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart
by your strong hand.

3 Your goodly land we seek,
with peace and plenty blest,
a land of sacred liberty
and Sabbath rest.

There milk and honey flow,
and oil and wine abound,
and trees of life forever grow
with mercy crowned.

4 You have eternal life
implanted in the soul;
your love shall be our strength and stay,
while ages roll.

We praise you, living God!
We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought,
and still the same!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

Psalm 130, adapted from Common English Bible

We cry out to you from the depths, LORD, Our Lord, listen to our voices!

Let your ears pay close attention to our request for mercy!

If you kept track of sins, LORD—our Lord, who would stand a chance?

But forgiveness is with you—that’s why you are honored.

We hope, LORD. Our whole being hopes, and we wait for God’s promise.

Our whole being waits for our Lord

—more than the night watch waits for morning;

Yes, more than the night watch waits for morning!

Israel, wait for the LORD!

Because faithful love is with the LORD;

because great redemption is with our God!

God is the one who will redeem Israel from all its sin.

MOMENTS OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

It still might be hard to take it in, but we hear it every week:

God accepts us, God gives us new chances; because of Jesus the Savior,

We can live lives of grace, mercy, justice, and peace!

As our ancestors used to say, “Hallelujah!”

Praise God for the gift of new life!

RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#608 “Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise Christ, all people here below;

praise Holy Spirit evermore;

praise Triune God, whom we adore.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God;
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

4 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

John 11:20-45

ANTHEM

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

Richard Shepherd

*Lord, who throughout these forty days For us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins And close by Thee to stay.*

*As Thou didst hunger bear, and thirst, So teach us, gracious Lord,
To die to self, and chiefly live By Thy most holy Word.
And through these days of penitence, and through your Passiontide,
Yes, evermore, in life and death, Jesus, with us abide!*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1-14

SERMON

“Whither the Breath of God?”

*“... then you shall know that I the LORD, have spoken and will act,
says the LORD.”*

The Rev. Dr. George B. Thompson, Jr., D. Min., S.T.D., Ph.D.
Presbytery Co-Associate, Presbytery of Western North Carolina

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Romans 8:10-11

**But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin,
the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him
who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the One who
raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies
also through his Spirit that dwells in you.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN 726** "Will You Come and Follow Me" KELVIN GROVE

1 "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"

2 "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"

3 "Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"

4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"

5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "My Faithful Heart Rejoices (Opus 122)"
Johannes Brahms

*Please rise in body and/or spirit

CHURCH STAFF

Ted Stewart, Director of Music
Andrew Tripp, Church Administrator
Leslie Sayyar and Brent Roberts, Treasurers
Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

Elder of the Day: Chrisann Ohler

Liturgist: Ken Murchison

Fellowship Time: Daughertys

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.

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

We celebrate: Our new pastor, Rev Jessica Rigel, starting this week!

We remember in prayer: John Laney in the hospital ◦ Ernst Laursen has been transferred to the VA Community Living Center for rehab ◦ Lavada Owenby, Cindy Riley's mother, who is home after a hospital stay and will undergo surgery in a few weeks

SUNDAY SCHOOL Both Adult and Youth classes are meeting during March for an Intergenerational Sunday School gathering. We are using curriculum from Illustrated Ministries that "invites us into the work of honest turning—facing hard truths, naming injustice, and trusting that transformation is possible even in the shadow of empire." Class meets at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday. Come join us for a time of learning and reflection as we dive into the "The Work of Imagination" together!

ADULT EDUCATION Mountain Institute for Lifelong Learning at WWC is a vessel for community building, exploration, adventure, place-based learning, and the ignition of new passion for lifelong learners. These are non-credit bearing experiences, ranging in length from one to three weeks, that bring learners to our campus or send them on global explorations with Warren Wilson faculty. Adults of all ages are encouraged to apply (18+). The majority of courses will take place on campus. More information at mountaininstitute.warren-wilson.edu

EASTER LILIES If you'd like to place a lily in honor/memory of someone for our Easter service on April 5, place your order by March 29. Order forms and a collection envelope are in the narthex, or you can send them to the church office.

WWC WORKDAY The College work day is Thursday, April 9. We will meet at the church at 7:30 AM and work until noon. Lunch will be provided at noon. Sign up in the narthex.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING is one of the yearly offerings of our denomination. It will be collected in worship on Easter Sunday. When we participate in One Great Hour of Sharing:

- We create possibility for people forced to flee their homes in search of safety.
- We empower partners to build sustainable futures.
- We walk alongside our siblings to work for more just immigration laws and processes.
- We support recovery efforts when disasters devastate.

You will hear more about this offering in the coming weeks.

****If you have been filling your fish banks, remember to bring them on Easter morning*

GUEST PREACHER We are excited to welcome George B. Thompson, Jr. to WWPC this week!

Throughout his decades of ministry, George has served the church as a pastor, associate pastor, interim pastor, church renewal coach, seminary professor, presbytery staff member, process facilitator, and author of books for churches and pastors. He and Beverly serve as Presbytery Co-Associates in the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. They live in Black Mountain, where George likes to help Beverly with her many yard projects and walk nine holes at the town golf course.

Cover photo by Mila Young on Unsplash

From Laurie:

Thank you so much for the wonderful send off. For the reception, the kind words out loud and in the cards, the gifts, the choral benediction, truly, thank you.

I would say, you are in good hands with the arrival of your new pastor, and it is true. But, I also say, your new pastor will find herself in your good hands.

Blessings and peace.

The week ahead at WWPC

3/22	2:00 (UFH)	Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting
3/23	1:15 (AdEd)	Staff Meeting
3/23	2:30 (LFH)	Tai Chi/Qigong
3/24	1:30 (Parlor)	Togather
3/25	9:00 (Youth)	Community Yoga
3/25	4:15 (Chapel)	College Choir Rehearsal
3/25	6:00 (AdEd)	Handbells
3/25	7:00 (Chapel)	Choir
3/27	9:00 (Youth)	Community Yoga
3/28	7:30 (Chapel)	Bob Strain Recital (WWC)
3/29	9:30 (UFH)	Intergenerational Sunday School

UFH - Upper Fellowship Hall

AdEd - Adult Classroom in the Education Building

LFH - Lower Fellowship Hall

Parlor - Chapel Parlor

Youth - Lower Classroom in the Education Building



Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

101 Chapel Lane
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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!*