

**Warren Wilson  
Presbyterian Church**

July 12, 2026



“Belief initiates and guides action—Or it does nothing.”

- Octavia E. Butler, Parable of the Sower

# Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

*7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*July 12, 2026 11:00 AM*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE**      “Rhosymedre (Lovely)”      R. Vaughan Williams

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**      Paulette Heck

One: Blessed are you, O Lord our God:

**All: Your word goes forth to the ends of the earth,  
planting seeds of promise and bearing good fruit.**

One: Blessed is Jesus Christ, Our Savior:

**All: Who scatters the seeds of the gospel in every place, so  
that those who receive Christ’s word might respond with joy.**

One: Let us worship the One who sows seeds of love,

**All: and let us reap God’s fruit of grace.**

One: Let us now worship the living Lord!

**\*OPENING HYMN 714**      “God of the Fertile Fields”  
ITALIAN HYMN

1 God of the fertile fields,  
shaper of earth that yields  
our daily bread:  
forth from your bounteous hand  
come gifts your love has planned,  
that all in every land  
be clothed and fed.

2 We would be stewards true,  
holding in trust from you  
all that you give;  
help us in love to share,  
teach us like you to care  
for people everywhere,  
that all may live.

3 As grows the hidden seed  
to fruit that serves our need,  
so your reign grows.  
Let all our toil be used,  
no gift of yours abused,  
no humble task refused  
your love bestows.

4 God of the countryside,  
dear to the Christ who died  
to make us one:  
we pledge our lives anew  
in faithful love to you.  
Guide all we say and do.  
Your will be done.

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

**O God, we are quick to say, “We didn’t know.” “We didn’t mean to.” “We didn’t expect that to happen.” But we have not tended the soil of our lives. We let it stay shallow and rocky by not learning from the experience of others. We let it be riddled with thorns by succumbing to our own prejudices. Life-giving God, help us to tend our soil. Open us to being challenged, enable us to learn, so that your word will take root and bear good fruit in our lives.**

*Silent moment for personal confession*

## **A PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS & PEACE**

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

### **\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”  
# 606 OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow  
Praise God all Creatures Here Below  
Praise God above the Heavenly Host  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES**

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

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 55:10-13

### **SECOND LESSON**

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### **SERMON**

Rev. Jessica Rigel

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE 531**

“Seed, Scattered and Sown”  
SEED SCATTERED

Refrain (All):

Seed, scattered and sown;  
wheat, gathered and grown;  
bread, broken and shared as one,  
the living bread of God.  
Vine, fruit of the land;  
wine, work of our hands;  
one cup that is shared by all,  
the living cup, the living bread of God.

Leader or All:

1 Is not the bread we break  
a sharing in our Lord?  
Is not the cup we bless  
the blood of Christ outpoured? (Refrain)

Leader or All:

2 The seed which falls on rock  
will wither and will die.  
The seed within good ground  
will flower and have life. (Refrain)

Leader or All:

3 As wheat upon the hills  
was gathered and was grown,  
so may the church of God  
be gathered into one. (Refrain)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come,  
Your 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  
Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN 171**

“A Sower Came from Ancient Hills”  
SEACHRIST

1 A Sower came from ancient hills  
and cast good seed abroad:  
his field, ten thousand human hearts;  
his seed, the word of God.  
And some who listened would not hear,  
and some who heard forgot.  
But some received in fertile soil  
the truth the Sower taught.

2 A Sower walked throughout the land  
and, everywhere he trod,  
he sowed his life because he was  
himself the Seed of God.  
But then, atop a barren hill,  
beneath a darkening sky,  
they threw God's Seed on stony ground  
and left it there to die.

3 The Seed was buried deep in death  
beneath a blood-red sky,  
and deeper still was buried hope  
for those who watched him die.  
But then, in Joseph's garden fair,  
as dawn broke o'er the land,  
the Seed, from three days' silent sleep,  
awoke at God's command!

4 O Christ, you come among us still,  
the Sower and the Seed.  
As once you sowed the truth of God  
in glowing word and deed,  
implant your Word in waiting hearts,  
and let it there take hold,  
until it bears in fruitful lives  
a harvest hundredfold.

**\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

“Postlude in D”

David N. Johnson

\*Please rise in body and/or spirit

**CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Jessica Rigel, Pastor  
Ted Stewart, Director of Music  
Andrew Tripp, Church Administrator  
Leslie Sayyar and Brent Roberts, Treasurers  
Barbara Escalante, Bookkeeper

**Elder of the Day:** Jim Storey  
**Liturgist:** Paulette Heck

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME VISITORS** If you are worshipping 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 or scan the QR code on the back of this bulletin. 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 remember in prayer:** **Chrisann Ohler** had hip replacement surgery on June 22 ◦ **Pat Meehan** had shoulder replacement surgery on June 26 ◦ **Pat Crumpler** for ongoing health issues.

**HETTRICK MEMORIAL** **Marjorie Hettrick** passed away June 17. A memorial service will be held at 1:00 pm on July 18, 2026, at Bethel Presbyterian Church, 203 South Kentucky Street; Kingston, TN. The service will also be live-streamed on the Bethel Presbyterian Church Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064618816789](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064618816789)

Obituary at: [www.ashevilleareaalternative.com/obituary/Marjorie-Hettrick](http://www.ashevilleareaalternative.com/obituary/Marjorie-Hettrick)

**SPIRITUAL NURTURE** The Spiritual Nurture team is excited to have received Session approval to introduce two, new child & family friendly spaces to our Sanctuary: a Pray-Ground and a Nursing area in the back of the Chapel! To make these areas comfortable and quiet, we're soliciting help from the congregation. We've set up a wishlist that can be viewed or purchased from directly at: [www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/29ZLPGSN63HY8?ref=list\\_d\\_wl\\_lfu\\_nav\\_5](http://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/29ZLPGSN63HY8?ref=list_d_wl_lfu_nav_5).

There are also physical copies of this list in the Narthex if you would like to purchase something from a different retailer; just let us know what you're thinking! We look forward to creating a more welcoming space for all of God's children, and thank you in advance for your help & support!

**CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY** Once again we are hosting the Chamber Music Society of the Carolinas in our sanctuary. They will be holding many rehearsals over the next few weeks and four different concerts each Saturday night through August 1 at 7:30. More information and tickets are available at [cms-carolinas.org/](http://cms-carolinas.org/)

**FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** Mark your calendars and get ready for a good time!

◦ Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> we're taking it out to the ball game! Join us for a fun evening of \$1 hotdogs, fireworks, and of course, baseball at the Asheville Tourists game at Hometrust Park! First pitch is at 6:35 and tickets are only \$11 if we have 20 or more folks interested! Call or email Pastor Jess to reserve your spot by July 22nd!

◦ Thursday, September 3rd we'll go see *The Odd Couple* at the Flat Rock Playhouse! Join us for this, "classic cocktail of chaos and charm. Meet Felix: impeccably pressed, emotionally distressed, and suddenly single. Meet Oscar: charmingly ruffled, habitually late, and blissfully allergic to coasters. When Felix moves in with his old pal Oscar after a marital meltdown, neatness meets nonsense and the sparks fly....as laughter fills the living room in Neil Simon's effervescent comedy of friendship, forgiveness, and the fine art of driving each other crazy." The show starts at 7:30 and tickets are \$58 with a group discount available if we have 15 or more folks sign up. Call or email Pastor Jess to let her know your interest by July 31st! We'll arrange car-pooling once we have final numbers!

*Cover image: Hochhalter, Cara B.. "A Parable - The Sower", from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58962> [retrieved July 8, 2026].*

*Original source: Cara B. Hochhalter.*

Most of our worship services are live streamed and may be permanently hosted on our YouTube channel.

## The week ahead at WWPC

7/12	2:00 (UFH)	Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting
7/13	1:15 (AdEd)	Staff Meeting
7/13	2:30 (UFH)	Tai Chi/Qigong
7/15	9:00 (Youth)	Community Yoga
7/15	4:30 (AdEd)	Spiritual Nurture
7/17	9:00 (Youth)	Community Yoga
7/18	1:00 (Online)	Marjorie Hettrick Memorial
7/18	7:30 (Chapel)	Chamber Music Society Concert

*The Chamber Music Society will be rehearsing in the Chapel throughout July with concerts on Saturday nights through 8/1.*

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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Office Hours M-F 9-3  
(828) 298-9092  
[www.warrenwilsonchurch.org](http://www.warrenwilsonchurch.org)



Online Giving



WarrenWilsonPC



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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!*