

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

August 16, 2026



"She was warned.
She was given an explanation.
Nevertheless, she persisted."

-Mitch McConnell's justification
to silence Senator Elizabeth Warren

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026 11:00 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Andante (Sixth Sonata)” Felix Mendelssohn

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Pat Levi

One: Lord of life, there is so much that we need today

**All: Grant us the persistence of the Canaanite woman,
and of all of those who advocate for the needs of others.**

One: Lord of life, there is so much that we desire today

**All: Grant us trust that your kingdom will come
and your will will be done**

One: Lord of life, there is so much that we hope for today

**All: Grant us healing and justice;
fill us with the fruits of the Spirit
that we might serve you fully,
with hearts full of grace and gratitude.**

One: Let us worship the Lord of Life,
who grants our needs, desires, and hopes!

All: Let us worship our living God!

***OPENING HYMN 317** “In Christ There Is No East or West”
MC KEE

1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.

3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of all goodness,
we do not want to face all that is in our own hearts.
We want to focus on the good—on the love, the compassion, the
care
and ignore the bad—the greed, the envy, the cruelty. But before
you, God, we must face it.
Forgive all the ways we have let evil take hold in our hearts.
Cleanse us. Help us face our own demons,
and empower us to live a Christlike life,
reflecting your goodness and mercy in our community and
world.**

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 56:1, 6-8

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 15:21-28

SERMON

Rev. Jessica Rigel

***HYMN OF PRAISE 435** **“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”
IN BABILONE**

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

2 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.

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 769**

“For Everyone Born”
FOR EVERYONE BORN

1 For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain:

and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!

2 For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair, (Refrain)

3 For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong, (Refrain)

4 For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live, (Refrain)

5 For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free, (Refrain)

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Sortie”

George Blake

*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: Chrisann Ohler

Liturgist: Pat Levi

Fellowship Time: 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 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 celebrate: Jack Ballard for constructing and installing a very nice new platform for the pulpit that provides Rev. Jess with a more stable place to stand. ° Students and teachers returning to school, including Warren Wilson College which is beginning with Convocation this Thursday in our Chapel

We remember in prayer: Ron Vinson, who died August 6th at Mountain Ridge and **his wife, Ann**. A celebration of his life will be held today, August 16 at 3:00 PM, in Upper Anderson Auditorium in Montreat. The family will visit with all who are able to attend at a reception following. ° **Ken and Eloise Murchison** following the loss of his beloved sister, **Marcia Murchison Magee** ° **Alisa White** after a medical procedure and a brief hospitalization ° **Rachel Sparling** had hip replacement surgery on August 7 ° **Donna Eagle Joslin** healing from non surgical fractures in two vertebrae ° WWC graduate and friend **David Iyleh**, who has been staying with Sarah Anne and Tommy Eller this summer and is looking for work. ° There are several health needs in our spiritual community that remain unspoken. Please lift up those members requesting anonymous prayers for healing, trusting that our benevolent Maker knows their needs.

HELP WANTED Do you have a green thumb and some spare time? The Peace Garden Task Force could use some help. We have designed, created, and dedicated the John E. Koegel Peace Garden in front of the Fellowship Hall. We have come to realize, however, that the aging joints of our team are making it hard to maintain the garden over time. If you would be willing to help with routine maintenance (weeding, pruning, and watering), please notify Chrisann Ohler (chair) at drchrisann@aol.com.

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS Students are returning to WWC this week, with classes starting soon after. To celebrate, we are having our annual **Welcome Students Potluck** on Sunday, September 13 following the **Student Led Worship Service**. There is a signup sheet in the narthex.

VRQ You are invited for a short tour of the Veteran's Village (1430 Tunnel Rd) on Monday, Aug. 24 at 2 p.m. This is where volunteers from our church have served lunch since Hurricane Helene in 2024 while the Veterans' Restoration Quarters (VRQ) is being rebuilt. WWPC volunteers have served the VRQ residents and staff on the fourth Friday every month for more than 16 years.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECAP Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Presbytery-wide opportunity for folks to hear more about the decisions made at our denominational body's General Assembly, which was held earlier this summer in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Please let Pastor Jess know if you're available to help with set-up or clean-up or hospitality for this special event, which will take place from 9am-2pm on Saturday, August 29th. Look for more details and registration information soon!

Cover image: Bazzi Rahib, Ilyas Basim Khuri. “The Canaanite Woman asks for healing for her daughter”, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/55922> [retrieved August 12, 2026]. Original source:

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ilyas_Basim_Khuri_Bazzi_Rahib_-_Jesus_and_the_Canaanite_Woman_-_Walters_W59243A_-_Full_Page.jpg

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

The week ahead at WWPC

8/16	2:00 (UFH)	Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting
8/17	1:15 (AdEd)	Staff Meeting
8/17	2:30 (LFH)	Tai Chi/Qigong
8/19	9:00 (Youth)	Community Yoga
8/19	4:30 (AdEd)	Spiritual Nurture
8/20	8:30 (UFH)	Swannanoa Communities Together
8/20	4:00 (Chapel)	WWC Convocation
8/21	8:30 (UFH)	Swannanoa Communities Together
8/21	9:00 (Youth)	Community Yoga

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

Mont - Montreat Conference Center



Warren Wilson
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Office Hours M-F 9-3
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www.warrenwilsonchurch.org



Online Giving



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!*