

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

September 20, 2026



“Jonah is vexed;
He cries, “What next? what next?”
And shakes his fist.

“Stupid city,
The shame, the pity,
The glorious crash I’ve missed.”

Away goes Jonah grumbling,
Murmuring and mumbling;
Off ploughs the purple whale,
With disappointed tail.”

- from “Jonah” by Robert Graves

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

*17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026 11:00 AM*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Aria”

Flor Peeters

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Paulette Heck

One: From the depths we cry to the Lord

All: and the Lord hears us.

One: When we feel cast out of God’s sight

All: Still God’s mercy finds us

One: When our lives feel swallowed by despair

All: God is not finished with us yet

One: The One who delivers us from the deep is also the one
who challenges our narrow minds and hardened hearts.

**All: We come to Worship the God who is gracious and
merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love**

One: Come, Let us Worship the Lord!

***OPENING HYMN 396** “Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”
HOLY MANNA

1 Brethren, we have met to worship
and adore the Lord our God.

Will you pray with all your power
while we try to preach the word?

All is vain unless the Spirit
of the holy One comes down.

Brethren, pray, and holy manna
will be showered all around.

2 Sisters, will you come and help us?
Moses’ sister aided him.

Will you help the trembling mourners
who are struggling hard with sin?

Tell them all about the Savior.

Tell them that he will be found.

Sisters, pray, and holy manna
will be showered all around.

3 Is there here a trembling jailer,
seeking grace and filled with fears?

Is there here a weeping Mary
pouring forth a flood of tears?

Brethren, join your cries to help them;
sisters, let your prayers abound!

Pray, O pray, that holy manna
will be scattered all around.

4 Let us love our God supremely;
let us love each other, too.
Let us love and pray for sinners
till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven;
at his table we'll sit down.
Christ will gird himself and serve us
with sweet manna all around.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful and persistent God, forgive us when we run and hide from you. You ask us to go places we would rather avoid. To speak words we fear will cost us. To love people we do not understand and would prefer to keep at a distance. Like Jonah, we flee, not always with our feet, but with our silence, our delay, our excuses about bad timing or our insistence that someone else is better suited than us. Forgive us, O God. Forgive us for wanting to shape your mission instead of surrendering to it. Turn us around again. Free us from our need to decide who deserves grace. Give us courage not only to go where you send us, but to rejoice when your mercy exceeds our imagining.

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

Jonah 3: 1-10

MUSICAL MEDITATION

"Liebster Jesu, wir sind heil"
J.S. Bach BWV730

SECOND LESSON

Jonah 4: 1-11

SERMON

***HYMN OF PRAISE 719**

“Come, Labor On”
ORA LABORA

1 Come, labor on.

Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain
while all around us waves the golden grain?
And to each servant does the Master say,
"Go work today."

2 Come, labor on.

Claim the high calling angels cannot share;
to young and old the gospel gladness bear.
Redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly.
The night draws nigh.

3 Come, labor on.

Cast off all gloomy doubt and faithless fear!
No arm so weak but may do service here.
Though feeble agents, may we all fulfill
God's righteous will.

4 Come, labor on.

No time for rest, till glows the western sky,
till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,
and a glad sound comes with the setting sun,
"Well done, well done!"

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 69**

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”
HERE I AM (Schutte)

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?
(Refrain)

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
(Refrain)

***CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE “Toccata in F” Dietrich Buxtehude

*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

Liturgist: Paulette Heck
Fellowship Time Host: Grisworlds
Elder of the Day: Chrisann Ohler

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE MOVE FORWARD We encourage you to move a row or two forward. This helps the congregational experience in many ways.

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 celebrate: Families of students who are on campus this weekend for WWC Family Weekend ◦ **Don Collins** for welcoming us to use his telescope this weekend ◦ **All of the students that led worship last week!** ◦ **John Bishop, Derron & Susan Daugherty, and Brent Roberts** for their work on landscaping around the chapel

We remember in prayer: **Betty Holden** in assisted living

CAROLINE STEWART MEMORIAL SERVICE is on Sunday, September 27 at 2 PM at the WWPC Cemetery Ash Garden

GUEST ORGANIST We welcome guest musician, Anthony Nichols, to the organ today. Anthony is in charge of our organ restoration project. He holds two degrees in voice, choral conducting, and sacred music from Mars Hill University and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is delighted to present the new tonal colours and refinements made in the instrument over the last few months. His experiences as former chief voicer and tuner of the Wanamaker Organ in Philadelphia brought him great knowledge of the tonal intricacies of the American Symphonic organ, some of which are now evident in the tonal revisions here at WWPC. This newly refined instrument is capable of playing all literature from Bach, Buxtehude, Franck, Widor, and even orchestral transcriptions, lending itself well to widely varied musical worship styles.

PASTOR JESSICA RIGEL'S INSTALLATION is Wednesday (9/23) at 6:00 in the Chapel and features the Rev David Black of 1st Presbyterian Church Chicago. This is an important moment for our church and we would love for everyone to be a part of it. There will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall after the installation. Please e-mail the church office at info@warrenwilsonchurch.org to RSVP.

SVCM needs volunteers. Contact savanna@svcmblackmountain.org

- The Crisis Ministry needs *Hairstylist/Cosmetologist, Clothing Closet & Front Desk help, Intake Counselor, Data Entry, and Spanish Interpreters*

- Hammer & Heart free urgent home repair program needs volunteers with relevant skillsets who are interested in being on call for projects here.

HOMECOMING POTLUCK The Homecoming Service and Potluck lunch is October 4. Signup sheet for bringing a dish is in the narthex. Please join church and college friends in fellowship!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE The deadline for submissions to the church office for the October Newsletter is September 23.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Hydeia Beck, future owner of Asheville Habitat for Humanity House of Faith #6, will visit us for a Moment for Mission next week. We will receive an offering to help with materials for the house and any donation helps. Ways to contribute: 1) through our church website, 2) by check with "Habitat offering" on the memo line and put in an offering plate or mailed to the church office, or 3) by Qualified Charitable Distribution from an IRA or check from a Donor Advised Gift Fund sent to the Church office and designated for "Habitat Offering".

BENEFIT PIANO RECITAL presented by Asheville Area Piano Forum and the Church Music Department. The recital raises funds for piano lessons for children in need. Hear 10 of the finest pianists in the area! **Sunday, October 11, 2026 at 3:30 pm in the Chapel.** Free Tickets for church members and friends - available by signing the Signup Sheet on the table in the narthex (Questions? Contact Music Director Ted Stewart—stewart.smith@att.net). Reception follows in the Fellowship Hall.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS The Adult Education Class meets on Sundays at 9:15 in the Adult Ed. Classroom. We are discussing "The Great Search" by John Philip Newell. Even if you haven't been reading, please come - the themes are universal enough for everyone to be able to participate and benefit from the discussion. We welcome you!

TOGATHER Jesus invites us to come to him and to come together to share our burdens and find rest. You are invited to join the Together Group, meeting the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:30 in the church parlor for a time of sharing, contemplation, and prayer.

CHANGE HAPPENS How do you go about dealing with change? Change will come. The question is how to prepare for it. Gain some insights into change in the church by attending Change Happens: Adaptive Resources for Today's Challenges, at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church 10 AM-3PM, Tuesday, Sept. 29. Additional info on the table in the narthex. RSVP at tinyurl.com/PWNCregistration by 9/24.

WALK FOR YOUR NEIGHBOR is October 4 at Swannanoa First Baptist Church. The walk begins at 2:00 with a block party to follow! **WWPC Friends** - Are you registered to walk? Contact Sally if you'd like to walk with a WWPC team, and wear matching WWPC tee shirts (we need to place the order soon).

Cover image: Swanson, John August. "Jonah", from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/56549> [retrieved September 14, 2026]. Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, <https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/>.

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

The week ahead at WWPC

9/20	2:00 (UFH)	Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting
9/21	1:15 (AdEd)	Staff Meeting
9/21	2:30 (LFH)	Tai Chi/Qigong
9/22	1:30 (Parlor)	Togather
9/22	6:00 (AdEd)	Handbells (NOT Wednesday!!)
9/22	7:00 (Chapel)	Choir (NOT Wednesday!!)
9/23	9:00 (Youth)	Community Yoga
9/23	4:00 (WWC)	Rigel/Black Talk (WWC Library)
9/23	6:00 (Chapel)	Pastor Rigel Installation
9/25	9:00 (Youth)	Community Yoga
9/27	9:15 (AdEd)	Adult Education Class

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
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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!*