

Warren Wilson Presbyterian Church
and College Chapel
SERVICE OF WORSHIP
4th Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017
11:00 a.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”

Mother Teresa

The Gathering of the People

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus **Vivian Hare**
arr. Cherwien

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE: **The Voices of Love**
Allee Williams & Sandy Brauer

SUNG RESPONSE (Chorus only) **GTG# 314**

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness
(CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT)

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

People: **We wait in hope, in peace, in joy and in love for God’s coming among us. Amen.**

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE** **GTG #133**

O Come, All Ye Faithful
(ADESTE FIDELES)

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION** **Emily Pulsifer**

***THE ADVENT CONFESSION (Unison)**

Living and eternal God, in whom all things are possible, we confess that we often doubt what we cannot explain. You have

sent us One who has taken on human flesh to show us who you are, and what your love is like. Yet we sometimes close our doors to him, afraid to give him room in our hearts. Help us transcend our doubts, and open our hearts that, like Mary and Joseph, we might be willing participates in your plans for us and for the world.

Silent prayer

***THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

***THE GLORIA** *Angels We Have Heard on High (Refrain)*
Gloria in Excelsis Deo!
Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

The Proclamation of the Word

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL **Rev. Grace Boyer**

All those children and youth who are present are invited to come forward at this time. After, children are encouraged to stay with their families during the worship service (no nursery today), or go to the parlor with a parent if that is more comfortable. Crayons and paper will be provided for young children. Children’s bulletins and worship bags are available for older children in the Narthex of the Church to use during the service.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Emily Pulsifer**

A READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Isaiah 9:2-7

THE ANTHEM *O Come, Little Children* *Bach/Giardinere*

Rebecca Hettrick, violin
The Chapel Choir

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Luke 2:1-14

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt

Christmas Faith

***THE HYMN OF PROCLAMATION**

GTG #110

Love Has Come
(BRING A TORCH)

The Response to the Word

***THE CHRISTMAS AFFIRMATION (Unison) Emily Pulsifer**

**I believe in God, who had the wild idea of becoming one of us.
I believe in Jesus, who restricted himself to Mary's womb for a while.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, who overshadowed Mary.
I believe in the incarnation of God.
I believe that God lives within us.
I still believe, always and in spite of everything,
that God is Emmanuel, that God was with us then,
and that God is with us now.**

James Hawes (adapted)

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE GIFTS OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

Of the Father's Love Begotten arr. Archer

***THE DOXOLOGY (IN DULCI JUBILO)**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Christ, all people here below
Praise the spirit evermore
Praise Triune God whom we adore.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

***THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

The Sending

***THE HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

GTG #113

Angels We Have Heard on High
(GLORIA)

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION (Verse 1 only)**

GTG #92

While We Are Waiting, Come
(WAITING)

*While We Are Waiting, Come, While We Are Waiting, Come Jesus,
our Lord, Emmanuel While We Are Waiting, Come*

***POSTLUDE**

Voluntary on REGENT SQUARE arr. Lang

*Please stand as you are able

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: **Emily Pulsifer**

Ushers: **Bitsy Singer, Kent Spillman, Allee & Kristin Williams**

Coffee Hour Hosts: **Susan & John Laney**

Elder of the Week: **Sally Broughton**

Advent Candle Lighters: **Allee Williams, Sandy Brauer**

CHAPEL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt, Minister

Rev. Grace Boyer, Associate in Ministry

Donna Eagle Joslin, Church Administrator

Vivian Hare, Director of Music and Organist

Jerry VanEman, Ray Stock, Treasurers

Alisa White, Assistant Treasurer

Nan Woodard, Book Keeper



WarrenWilsonPC



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WELCOME VISITORS! We are pleased to have you with us this morning. We invite you to join us for a cup of coffee after the service, and to stop by our Visitors Information Station in the Narthex. There you will find copies of recent newsletters and sermons, and a welcome packet that will tell you more about who we are, what we believe, and what we do. Thanks for joining us for worship today, and we hope to see you again soon!

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR

PRAYERS: Marion Satterfield and family, on Neil's death; Milt Butterworth; Pam, CC's daughter-in-law; Salyna Morgan; Barbara Higgins; Edythe Wiener; Dr. Steven Williams; Barbara Robinson; Chuck & Lue Stephenson and Mary Moorrees.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Dec. 24, Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, 9:00 pm

SPECIAL OFFERING The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected today during the service. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. The importance of the racial ethnic schools and colleges of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is demonstrated in the continuing partnership between the two entities. The institutions have provided quality education to people who have contributed immeasurably to the church at large and to the world. Students are educated for the professions of their choice in an environment which supports and nurtures racial and ethnic heritage.

THANK YOU A special thank you goes out to Gina Marvin, Fran Roberts, Susan Laney and all the people who helped and brought their goodies to this year's Wassail celebration. Once again, it was wonderful!

POINSETTIAS IN CHAPEL (New this year) Please take your poinsettias home today after the service if you didn't get them last week. Thank you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE 1) A reminder that there is no Sunday School for Children or Adults on Dec 31.
2) Adult Education: Would you like to brainstorm topics for Adult Education this Winter and Spring? Then join Steve Runholt and Grace Boyer in the Adult Classroom on Wednesday January 3rd at 2:00 pm (or send them your suggestions). Final decisions will be made during class time on Sunday January 7th.
3) No Nursery Today: We are giving our Nursery workers a well deserved Christmas holiday on December 24 and December 31. Children are encouraged to stay with their families in the sanctuary throughout the worship service, but there is also the option of going to the parlor with a parent if that is more comfortable. The worship service is piped into the parlor, and crayons and paper will be provided. Nursery will resume on January 7.

SVCM HOMELESS SHELTER WWPC will provide food for the shelter at Black Mountain First Baptist Church the week of Dec. 31, thru January 6. Call Betty Siviter at 298-2390 for more information.

HOMELESS SHELTER CLOTHING COLLECTION

Beginning today, December 17, 2017 we will be collecting men's warm hats, gloves, socks, and much needed underwear and long johns for the homeless shelter at the First Baptist Church in Black Mountain. Please leave these items unwrapped in the large box in the narthex.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED A volunteer is needed to work with Pat Wilson in the clothing room on the third Monday of each month at ABCCM between 12:30pm and 3:00pm. A checklist is provided to guide you on the needs of each individual who visits the clothing room. Needs are assessed by a counselor before they can get clothing. Some folks are homeless, living outside and need blankets or coats; others are looking for work clothing to enable them to get a job. Contact Pat Wilson for more information.