



God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

***No matter who you are or where you are
on life's journey,
you are welcome here!***

**Guilford Community Church is a safe place
for all people to worship regardless of race, creed,
age, cultural background or sexual orientation**

Rev. Lise Sparrow, Pastor

Peter Amidon & Andy Davis, Choir Directors

Patty Meyer, organist

Pastor's Phone: (802) 257-2776

Pastor's e-mail: gccucc@sover.net

Administrator's/Kitchen Phone: (802) 257-0994

Administrator's e-mail: gccsecy@sover.net

website: www.guilfordchurch.org

Or Like us on Facebook at Guilford Community
Church, United Church of Christ



Administrative Office Hours: Closed Mon
Tues-Fri 9am-3pm

Pastor's Office Hours: By Appointment

Bulletin Notices: Please notify the office by Thursday
at noon if you would like something added to the
bulletin.

Hospital Visits: If you or a loved one are in the
hospital and would like a visit from Pastor Lise Sparrow
or one of the Deacons, please leave a message at 257-
2776 with the name and room number of the person.
Hospital confidentiality regulations prevent visits
without this information.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
March 24, 2019

PRELUDE
WELCOME
ANNOUNCEMENTS

A complete list of announcements can be found in the insert or in our weekly e-news. Please fill out the cards in the pews to be added to our mailings.

Birthday Song:

*Happy Birthday, happy birthday, we love you
Happy Birthday and may all your dreams come true
When you blow out the candles one light stays aglow
It's the love light in your eyes, where'er you go.*

SILENT MEDITATION & THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

INTROIT: "Walk Together, Children"
(reprise from the women's retreat)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Maya Angelou)

Leader: "Hate, it has caused a lot of problems in this world, but it has not solved one yet."

People: "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel."

"To those who have given up on love, I say, 'Trust life a little bit.'"

"Just like moons and like suns, with the certainty of tides, just like hopes springing high, still I'll rise."

Leader: "My wish for you is that you continue."

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SEASONAL OVERFLOW SHELTER MEALS

Rob and Jill Harnish lead the preparation and serve meals the second Sunday of each month. Our next meal is scheduled for April 14. Your help is needed and welcomed in all aspects of the task. Sign up downstairs or let them know if you can provide part of a meal and/or help with serving the meal any month. Rob's number is (508) 808-1373 or email: rharn92636@gmail.com

DONATIONS FOR GROUNDWORKS (previously MORNINGSIDE SHELTER)

The shelter can always use sheets, towels and toiletries. Donations can be left in the basket downstairs and we will be sure to deliver them.

GUILFORD FOOD PANTRY - Donations of peanut butter, tuna fish and breakfast cereal are much needed for the pantry and are always welcome. If you would like more information, or would like to help out on Thursdays, please contact Pat Haine at 257-0626 or email pth1946@yahoo.com. The Food Pantry is open every Thursday from 5- 6pm and is located at the Broad Brook Grange, 3940 Guilford Center Rd.

DOVE PROJECT - Thanks for anything you can offer to those living with HIV/AIDS in our community. The little white doves on the board downstairs are suggestions of things most needed.

AA meets on Tuesdays and Fridays. The Tuesday 6-7pm meeting is a Big Book/Step meeting and is open to alcoholics and families of alcoholics. The meeting on Friday from 5:30-6:30pm is for women only.

Second Sunday Step/ Study – An Al-Anon Family Step Work Group. This group meets the 2nd Sunday of the month, 2-4pm in the Houghton Room. The next meeting is April 14.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*THE CLOSING HYMN: #481 "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

SENDING FORTH THE LIGHT
BENEDICTION

*THREEFOLD AMEN: Hymn #291
**invites the congregation to stand*
***RPB=Red Pew Bible ***LPB=Large Print Bible

**We wish you a warm welcome this morning
and hope you will feel very much
at home and among friends.
Please plan to stay and join us after
the service for a time
of fellowship and refreshment.**

Today we especially thank the volunteers who make
this worship service & the reception after possible.
Service Coordinator: Rob Harnish
Greeters: Pat & Jim Haine
Coffee Hour: Lucy Spahr-Blazej, Fred Ashworth
Jenn McCalley, Junie & Finn Breismeister

Our Lenten Series today is focussed
On Racial Justice and features a film,
"I Am from Here", focussed on youth of color
and their experiences in Vermont schools.
Curtiss Reed Jr, executive director of the Vermont
Partnership for Fairness and Diversity,
Will join us in the Houghton Room after the service.
Everyone is welcome!

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Continue to be who and how you are, to astonish a mean
world with your acts of kindness."

**People: "This is a wonderful day. I have never seen this
one ever before."**

OPENING HYMN: #420 "In The Morning When I Rise"

PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION (oga.pca.org)

One: O God, you bring justice to the oppressed and give
bread to the hungry.

All: Forgive us when we do not follow you.

One: You free the prisoner and restore sight to the blind.

All: Forgive us when we do not follow you.

One: You support the downtrodden and protect the
stranger.

All: Forgive us when we do not follow you.

One: You block evildoers and help orphans and widows.

All: Forgive us when we do not follow you.

One: You stand against injustice. You stand with the
wronged.

All: Forgive us when we do not follow you.

One: You condemn those who seek their own interests,
controlling and harming others.

All: Forgive us when we do not follow you.

One: You bring about justice and true peace among people.

**All: God, forgive us when we do not follow you. Grant us
your grace. Embolden us that, as your people, we may
stand where you stand.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE HYMN: #271 "Lead Me, Lord"

ANTHEM: "By The Waters of Babylon"

CHILDREN'S STORY: "Good Samaritans"

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S HYMN: # 308 #If Anybody Asks You Who I Am"

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CONTEMPORARY READING "Praise Song for the Day"
By Elizabeth Alexander for the inauguration of
Barack Obama

Each day we go about our business,
walking past each other, catching each other's
eyes or not, about to speak or speaking.

All about us is noise. All about us is
noise and bramble, thorn and din, each
one of our ancestors on our tongues.

Someone is stitching up a hem, darning
a hole in a uniform, patching a tire,
repairing the things in need of repair.

Someone is trying to make music somewhere,
with a pair of wooden spoons on an oil drum,
with cello, boom box, harmonica, voice.

A woman and her son wait for the bus.
A farmer considers the changing sky.
A teacher says, *Take out your pencils. Begin.*

We encounter each other in words, words
spiny or smooth, whispered or declaimed,
words to consider, reconsider.

We cross dirt roads and highways that mark
the will of some one and then others, who said
I need to see what's on the other side.

I know there's something better down the road.
We need to find a place where we are safe.
We walk into that which we cannot yet see.

Say it plain: that many have died for this day.
Sing the names of the dead who brought us here,
who laid the train tracks, raised the bridges,

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picked the cotton and the lettuce, built
brick by brick the glittering edifices
they would then keep clean and work inside of.

Praise song for struggle, praise song for the day.
Praise song for every hand-lettered sign,

the figuring-it-out at kitchen tables.

Some live by *love thy neighbor as thyself*,
others by *first do no harm or take no more
than you need*. What if the mightiest word is love?

Love beyond marital, filial, national,
love that casts a widening pool of light,
love with no need to pre-empt grievance.

In today's sharp sparkle, this winter air,
any thing can be made, any sentence begun.
On the brink, on the brim, on the cusp,

praise song for walking forward in that light.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 7: 1-5 ***RPB p.6 ***LPB p.8

SERMON: "The Law and the Prophets"

ANTHEM: "We Are Climbing High Mountains"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(It is our custom to join hands for the Lord's Prayer.)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Hymn #278

"Hear our Prayer, Oh Lord..."

THE OFFERTORY

CALL TO OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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PRAYERS AT GUILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

Our faith teaches us that prayer is a unique and powerful force
for healing. Within our community, we believe it is also
important to respect confidentiality. We trust the people listed
below have been consulted and are glad to be included.

If you would like a loved one added to these prayers, please leave a prayer request in the prayer triangle at the back of the Sanctuary, or call the Pastor's phone line (257-2776). They will be included in the list for three weeks unless other requests are made.

Family & Friends of Kate Mayo
Family and Friends of Marylin Boucher

Joan Shimer	Angela Daprato	Grace Wahlberg
Lisa Vose	Joan Seymour	Doris Spahr
Mary Grove	Elaine Petrie	Carol Jaenson
Theodore Koehler	Bob Maes	Blakely Ann Amidon
Peter Tracy	Justin	Tony Barrand
Jay Falk	Diana MacInnes	Joy Hayes
Lois & Chaz Freeman	Herb Meyer	Elizabeth Israel
Ruth Ayers	Anne Janeway	Michael Vose
Jim Peters	Laurel Jenkins	Kyle Franklin
Mary Ellen Koehler	Alison	Mary Lila Gregg
Chip Siler	Elisabeth Dearborn	Joanie McBean
Matt Kent	Desmond Oliver	Kathy Linskey

Officers and Crew of the
John C. Stennis Aircraft Carrier CVN74

Prayer Chain: Should a health emergency arise during the week for which you would like prayers, or if you would be willing to pray for others and would like to join the prayer chain, please call Lucy Spahr-Blazej at (380-3695). If you are leaving a message for Lucy requesting a prayer, please spell the names, or email Lucy at lucysb1@gmail.com.

EASTER WEEK

Thursday, April 18

Seder Supper 5:30 pm
Tenebrae Service, 7pm



Friday, April 19

Good Friday Ecumenical Service
Noon to 3pm

Sunday, April 21. EASTER!!

6am: Sunrise Service

Outside next to the church

6:30: Pancakes for all!

Served by the men of the church

10AM: EASTER FAMILY SERVICE

Nursery care provided

CHURCH CONNECTIONS AND SUPPORT

Need a ride to church? Please call Patty Meyer at 254-0994 by Friday noon.

Want to receive our weekly e-news and quarterly newsletters? Please fill out one of the cards in the pews and place it on the offering plate.

BCTV: Many of our services have been filmed and can be found on BCTV, Channel 8 Wednesday morning at 7am and Sunday mornings at 8am or anytime online at www.brattleborotv.org.

Audio-recordings of services are available through Patty at 257-0994.

GATHERINGS FOR LENT

Below you find listed presentations which we hope will bring the congregation together for shared learning about the themes of the Sermon on the Mount as lived out currently and locally. Come to one or come to all.

TODAY: "Judge Not:

“I Am from Here”,
Film discussion with Curtiss Reed
on racial equity in Vermont

March 31: “The Golden Rule: the Edge of Contemporary Christianity”, an introduction to Nadia Bolz-Weber with Jen McCalley.

April 7 **2pm**: “Build on Rock: Building Relationships on Pine Ridge Reservation” with John Willis and Arthur Running Horse

April 14: “Do Not Worry: the Universal Christ”, a conference excerpt with Richard Rohr from the Center for Action and Contemplation

**Centering Prayer every Wednesday
4:20-5:30pm—everyone welcome**

**OPEN MEDITATION
4:20 - 4:50 pm
DISCUSSION
4:50-5:30pm**

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT is a collection of sayings and teachings of Jesus Christ, which emphasizes his moral teaching found in the Gospel of Matthew (chapters 5, 6, &7). Chapter five begins: “*And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him.² And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:*

³Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

¹²Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.