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

Rev. Lise Sparrow, Pastor
Peter Amidon and Andy Davis, Choir Directors

Pastor’s Phone: (802) 257-2776
Pastor’s e-mail: lisemsparrow@gmail.com
Administrator’s/Kitchen Phone: (802) 257-0994
Administrator’s e-mail: guilfordchurch@gmail.com
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.

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 (802) 380-3695. Please spell the name(s) or email Lucy at lucysb1@gmail.com.

“Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?”

—Mary Oliver

ORDER OF WORSHIP
ALL SAINTS DAY  
November 3, 2019

Prelude
Welcome
Announcements
Prayer and Candle-Lighting for the Search Committee

Dear God,
We continue on the path that leads to welcoming a succeeding pastor into our congregation. We know that you speak to us in whatever way we will listen. May our committee heed the guidance that is there for the taking.  
Amen.

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
and The Lighting of Candles

Call to Worship:

Today we give thanks for the dear ones who surround us like a great cloud of witnesses and make the mysterious heaven a home for our hearts.

We especially remember the less famous saints, and that host of ordinary Christians, who in their day and place, faithfully loved and served the Lord.

Let us praise God! Let us sing a new song of praise, sing God’s praise in the assembly of faithful people. For our God takes pleasure in ordinary believers, and decorates the humble with victory robes.

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Today we especially thank the volunteers who make this worship service & the reception after possible.

Service Coordinator: Terry Sylvester
Greeters: Barry Levitt + Mary Ellen Koehler
Coffee Hour: Rachel & Dwayne Johnson
Flowers: Margaret-Dale Barrand

Are You Considering Becoming a GCC Member?
Membership information packets are available at the back of the church. For more information please contact Lise or one of the deacons. A new member tea is tentatively set for November 16, with the welcome set for November 17.

November Offerings…

For our homeless brothers and sisters at the Groundworks Drop In Center:

boots, gloves, hats for adults…

Thanksgiving Boxes…
November 24 the Sunday School will fill decorated boxes for members of the church, the local community and the AIDS Project who may welcome this extra holiday support. Sign up today to donate needed items:

- Turkeys
- Cranberry Sauce
- Stuffing
- Potatoes
- Biscuits/Corn Bread
- Gravy
- Vegetables (canned or fresh)
- Pie Crust and filling

People: His cup is strength and hope to us.

Pastor: Let Us Pray…
Loving God, who in Jesus Christ gives us our salvation, Consecrate by your Holy Spirit, these elements of Holy Communion. Bless us as we receive them this day that we may be your faithful people. In our Risen Savior’s name we pray.

All: Amen.

All come forward to receive the bread and wine.

Please note the cut-up bread in the center of the plate is all gluten free. The cup is all grape juice, not wine. When the server shall say: “The body of Christ” or “the blood of Christ”, please respond, “Amen”.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

All: We thank you God for this most amazing gift that you have brought us together at this table in your loving presence and with each other. We thank you for your abiding love and for the promise of your sacrifice to us. We ask that you strengthen our faith and increase our love toward one another. Let us show forth your praise as we worship joyfully together and as we serve you gladly in our lives. In the name of Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*RECESSIONAL HYMN: #341 “Peace I Leave with You”

*THREEFOLD AMEN: Hymn #291

*invites the congregation to stand

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

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*OPENING HYMNS

AND CANDLE LIGHTING FOR LOVED ONES:

#420 “In The Morning When I Rise”

#95 “Be Still My Soul”

Please come forward and light candles for loved ones who have died whom you would like to remember today. If you are willing, please say the name of the person/s into the microphone.

PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION

Let Us Pray:

Pastor: Again and again, you urge us to seek you first.

People: We long to trust the path of love for you, and our neighbors as ourselves.

Pastor: Again and again you urge us not to lean on our own understanding, but in all our ways to acknowledge you.

People: And yet we are often distracted by the clamor of fear dressed up as reason.

Pastor: As we prepare our hearts and minds in these days, at times we forget to observe your statutes of compassion and your ordinances of justice.

People: Help us find and remember your peace.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the word of God for this season and all seasons: “Do not be afraid! I will never leave you or forsake you.” Know that our God who began a good work in us is able to complete it. As we open ourselves to the Spirit of God, may we see more fully the wonder of God already at work in us.

And so it is.

Amen

2

ANTHEM: “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” arr. Andy Davis

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: Elijah and Elisha

CHILDREN’S HYMN: #527 “For the Fruit of All Creation”
CONTEMPORARY READING (Sarah Rankin)
“The Summer Day” by Mary Oliver

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean—the one who has flung herself out of the grass, the one who is eating sugar out of my hand, who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is. 
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass, how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields, which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?
—Mary Oliver

SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:1-10  ***RPB p.77  ***LPB p.100
CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn:#617
“Write These Words in Our Hearts ...”

3

SERMON: “In our Living and our Dying”
ANTHEM: “Soon I Will Be Done with the Troubles of the World”

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

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
COMMUNION HYMNS: #433 “Nada Te Turbe” (3x)
    #195 “Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”

PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION
Leader: Come, for all things are now ready.
Come to the table with all your kin and share with all in need:
the gift of healing for those in pain,
the gift of forgiveness for those in sin,
the gift of assurance for those in doubt,
and the gift of hope for those in tears.

We hear in Matthew 26: 26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.”

People: His bread is Life to us.

27 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the Covenant, which is poured out for the healing of hearts, the forgiveness of sins and the reconciliation of all peoples and Creation.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Need a ride to church? Please call Patty Meyer at 257-0994 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.
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 in the office.

AA MEETINGS take place on Tuesdays and Fridays in the Houghton Room. Tuesdays at 6:00 pm is an OPEN AA MEETING for men and women. Friday’s meeting is at 5:30 pm and is a closed AA meeting, for women only.

SECOND SUNDAY STEP STUDY – An Al-Anon Family Step Work Group. This group meets the 2nd Sunday of the month, 2-4 pm in the Houghton Room. The next meeting is Sunday, November 10th.

LIVING STRONG Classes for strength and balance meet at the church Mon/Wed at 5:30-6:30pm, Tuesday - Friday 10-11am. Speak to Lise (257-2776) or Lucy (380-3695) for more information or check out the Facebook page: Guilford Living Strong.

TAI CHI FOR MATURE BODIES – Mondays from 10-11am Intermediate & Mondays 11-12 for Beginners. For more information contact Patty at 257-0994.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Thankful & Blessed

Sunday, November 3
ALL SAINTS DAY
Lighting candles for loved ones

Sunday, November 10
Brian Remer: Worship Leader
Bazaar Craft Making after church

Sunday, November 17
New Member Welcome
ANNUAL MEETING
after church

Sunday, November 24
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
Baptism of Canaan Lee Thormann

Sunday, December 1
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Pageant Rehearsal begins

Saturday, December 7
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

CONGRATULATIONS TO AUSTIN RICE!
BCTV Volunteer of the Year
We are so blessed to have you with us!

Lise will be away on retreat Nov 6-10.
While she is away you are welcome to call Fred Breunig (254-2019) for church emergencies or Lucy (380-3695) for pastoral emergencies. Lucy can arrange for care by a local pastor.
Crafts for The Christmas Bazaar

Are you a woodworker, a knitter, a potter, or a multitalented Pinterest-type crafter? Can you build a birdhouse, knit a hat, make earrings, or create Christmas tree ornaments?

The Christmas Bazaar would love donations of your handmade items to jazz up the crafts area! Got a craft idea but need help to make it? Call Jan (802) 490-9647 and leave a message or speak with Cheri Ann. Many hands make a fabulous crafts display!

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 for three weeks unless other requests are made.

GCC Search Committee
Family & Friends of Tim Sparrow

| Lisa Vose       | Joan Seymour       | Doris Spahr         |
| Anne Janeway    | Elaine Petrie      | Carol Jaenson      |
| Theodore Koehler| David & Kim       | William K. Murray   |
| Carole Crompton | Al Franklin        | Keller Family      |
| Jay Falk        | Diana MacInnes     | Angela Daprato     |
| Lois & Chaz Freeman | Mary Grove     | Elizabeth Israel   |
| Ruth Ayers      | Lori Shrinker     | Michael Vose       |
| Don Marsh       | Herb Meyer        | Gina Clark         |
| Laura Christie  | Justin            | Mary Lila Gregg    |
| Mary Ellen Koehler | Rob Harnish    | Grace Wahlberg     |
| Marilyn Struzziery | Jacob         | Victoria Conroy    |
| Mueller Family  | Nan               | Eileen Murray Lantzas |
| Tristan Toleno  | Julie Peterson    | Jerome Holland    |
|                 | Tara, Kim, Tod, & Russell Brown |

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets Mondays at 3pm.
Everyone is welcome. The knitters provide beautiful hand knit or crocheted shawls for those in need of the comfort the shawls offer. There is a good supply of yarn and patterns for those who wish to fashion a shawl. If you would like a shawl blessed to give to someone please speak to Lise, Pat Haine or Ellen Crockett. If you would like yarn to make one please contact Pat (257-0626). And, if you donate a shawl, please put your name on it so we will know who made this gift!