



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!**

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 380-3695. If you are leaving a message for Lucy requesting a prayer, please spell the name(s) or email Lucy at lucysb1@gmail.com.

GUILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH United Church of Christ

**November 24, 2019
REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY**



**"Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth."**

**The God of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

(PSALM 46: 10-11)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Today we welcome Shirley Squires and Marguerite Monet
who work hard all year round to support people living
with HIV/AIDS in the Brattleboro Area.**

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PRAYER and CANDLE-LIGHTING FOR THE SEARCH
COMMITTEE

**Dear God,
As the search committee considers candidates who have
chosen to apply for pastorship with GCC, please let them
feel your Holy Spirit through them. Help them discern
your voice.
Amen.**

INTROIT: "Sweet Canaan"

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: The day breaks

All: And God does not let us go.

One: The hour calls

All: And God does not let us go.

One: The evening falls

All: And God holds us fast.

One: Let us turn to God in worship

All: God, who is with us always and ever

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OPENING HYMN: #10 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION

God is present to us, but we don't always feel it.

God is good to us, but we can't always accept it.

There is so much within and around us

that attempts to step between us

and our relationship to God's goodness.

There are things that we think, things that we do,

that act to separate us from God.

Let us come together in connection to all which is good.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The God who gives, gives all.
The God who loves, loves all.
The God who forgives, forgives all.

Through Christ, our errors, every one of them:
the errors of commission,
the errors of omission,
the errors we confessed with contrition –
all are forgiven.

All: By the grace of God, we are forgiven. Alleluia!

ANTHEM: "Take Me to the Water"

(All children are invited to come forward)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *for Canaan Lee Thormann*

Pastor: Dear friends, as we come to this font of
living water, let us remember the meaning of Baptism..
For just as the body is one and has many members, and
all the members of the body, though many are one body,
so it is with Christ.

**People: Jesus said: let the children come to me,
Do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God.**

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Pastor: And he took them in his arms and blessed them,
laying his hands upon them. The Sacrament of Baptism
is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God.

In as much as the promise of the gospel has been for us it is also for children.

Baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's everlasting forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and fellowship.

Let us turn to God, and ask for the gift of blessing from this font for Canaan, who has been chosen for life at this time and with these parents.

People: From all who are Baptized in water and the Holy Spirit, you have formed one people, united in faith. You have set us free and filled our hearts with the Spirit of your Love, that we may live in your Peace.

Pastor: You have called your child to this Blessed Water that she might share in faith and know eternal life. By the mystery of this consecrated water God leads her to a new and spiritual birth.

All: Therefore on this day, the whole church remembers and celebrates.

Pastor: (to the parents, Curtis and Marieke Thormann):
Is it your desire to Baptize your daughter?

Parents: It is.

Pastor: Do you promise to help her understand God's loving presence in her life and make it your constant care to bring her up in the practice of faith?

Parents: We do.

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Pastor: May the Creator God, who gives life on earth and in heaven, bless you, her parents. May you, always and ever, thank God for the gift of this child and always demonstrate that gratitude in action by loving and caring for her.

Pastor: *(to the godparents, Margaret Tomlinson and Lee Mohr)*
Will you Lee, and Maggie, also pray for Canaan, care for her, and help her to take her place within a life of worship?

Godparents: We will.

Pastor to Congregation: *(Those who are able rise)*

Do you who are witnesses promise your love, support and care to the one about to be Baptized?

People: We promise our love, support and care.

ALL: Loving God, may it please you to sanctify by your Holy Spirit this child, in the name of the Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. Amen. *(Pastor Blesses the child).*

Pastor: Let us pray together:

ALL: Loving God, may it please you to sanctify by your Holy Spirit this child, generously Bless all of us who are your faithful children. May we always live as your people, and may You Bless all here present with Your peace. Amen.

BAPTISM HYMN #310: "Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed"
The children are invited downstairs for Sunday School and nursery care.

SCRIPTURE READING (Ian Silberman)
*Psalm 46 ***RPB p.489 ***LPB p.636*
*Colossians 1:11-20 ***RPB p.188 ***LPB p.243*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn: #617
"Write These Words in Our Hearts ..."

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SERMON

ANTHEM: "Hold On to God's Unchanging Hand"

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE
*THE CLOSING HYMN: #12 "Immortal, Invisible God"

BENEDICTION
*THREEFOLD AMEN: Hymn #291
**invites the congregation to stand*

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

Service Coordinator: Terry Sylvester
Greeters: Elizabeth Christie & Kathie Lovell
Coffee Hour: Bev Langeveld & Jenn McCalley

*We wish you a warm welcome this morning
and hope you will feel very much
at home and among friends.*

*Please join us after worship
for the reception for the baptism.*

THANKSGIVING OFFERINGS:

***Thanks so much for your generosity today.
The children are packing up ten boxes
with full dinners for ten families.
Thanks for making this possible!***

NOVEMBER OFFERINGS...



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

boots, gloves, hats for adults...
Towels, mugs, coffee
Still needed ☺

PROJECT FEED THE THOUSANDS/GUILFORD CARES

(basket is downstairs)

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cereal (non-sugar coated) | Pasta (Assorted) |
| Tuna Fish | Brown Rice (one pound) |
| Spaghetti Sauce | Canned Chicken |
| Canned Vegetables | Fruit in Natural Juices |
| Peanut Butter | Jelly |
| Soup (Assorted Low/No Salt) | Mayonnaise |
| Cheese | Pancake Mix |
| Sugar Free Apple Sauce | Crackers |
| Dried Fruit (no sugar added) | Whole Grain Crackers |
| Baby Formula | Baby Food |



World Aids Day Commemoration
Monday, December 2 * Noon to 1pm
Centre Congregational Church, UCC

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 and Friends of Marilyn Struzziery
Family and Friends of Ruth Eileen Collins

Lisa Vose	Joan Seymour	Doris Spahr
Anne Janeway	Elaine Petrie	Carol Jaenson
Theodore Koehler	Julie Peterson	Herb Meyer
Trudy McNulty	Grace Wahlberg	Jay Falk
Anthony Bombocino	Diana MacInnes	Angela Daprato
Lois & Chaz Freeman	Mary Grove	Elizabeth Israel
Ruth Ayers	Lori Shriner	Michael Vose
Victoria Conroy	Jacob	Mary Ellen Koehler
Ina Schaffer	Justin	Nan
Richard Sumner		

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!

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.

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 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- 4pm 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 5:15–6:15pm, 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

Today, November 24
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY
Baptism of Canaan Lee Thormann

Tuesday, November 26, 7pm
Interfaith Service
of Thanksgiving and Blessing
for the First Baptist Church

Sunday, December 1
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Pageant Rehearsal begins
A Christmas Carol Read Along, 4pm

Saturday, December 7
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
9am- 1:30pm

Sunday, December 8
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 15
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Dessert Potluck and Caroling
after church

Sunday, December 22
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Tuesday, December 25
CHRISTMAS EVE
4pm and 11pm
Candlelight Services

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR..!



Kids' Activities at the Bazaar
Bring kids and grandkids to the Bazaar! They can have their picture taken with Santa's elves, and also have an opportunity to create a holiday card for a family member or friend.

MANY WAYS TO HELP IN THE PREPARATIONS!

Wreath decorating – Thursday, 12/5, beginning around 4:30 pm, at the church.

Crafts – All kinds of handmade creations. Please bring to the church by Thursday, 12/5, 6:00 pm.

Food Table – Tea breads, preserves, homemade candy, etc.! Please bring to the church by Thursday, 12/5, 6:00 pm.

White Elephants – Clean items in good condition. If possible, bring to Zeller Hall between Friday, 11/30, and Sunday, 12/1.

Sign-up Sheets -- For Friday set-up (12/6) and for working at the Bazaar will be at the back of the church.

Quilt Raffle---Have you seen the chickadee quilt? Buy a ticket and help sell tickets!! \$2 each, or \$5 for 3 tickets

Questions?

For questions about crafts, email Jan Drechsler: quilt doc@gmail.com.

The Bells Ring One More Time!

Interfaith Commendation & Blessing



for the congregation of the

First Baptist Church

1840-2019

November 26, 2019 at 7 PM

GIVE
THANKS

All offerings of food and funds go to
Groundworks for the ongoing work of the
Overflow Shelter for the Homeless

SAY A
BLESSING



Poinsettia Order Form

We are offering plants in a choice of colors and sizes:

Large Red (2 stems) = \$21

Large White (2 stems) = \$21

Small Red (1 stem) = \$10.75

Small White (1 stem) = \$10.75

Please return orders to Patrice Murray by Sunday, Dec. 1.

Make checks payable to GCC with "Poinsettia" in the memo line.

Your name(s):

Plants desired (e.g., 1 small red, 1 large white, etc.)

Please check one: Given in honor Given in memory

of

Paid? Yes Not yet

Thank you!