

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.

Guilford Community Church United Church of Christ

**Last Sunday after Epiphany
TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY
February 23, 2020**



"Transfiguration" by He-Qi

"We ask you to pour your love out
in waterfalls of tenderness..."
(*Maya Angelou*)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
February 23, 2020**

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

PRAYER AND CANDLE LIGHTING FOR THE PASTOR
SEARCH COMMITTEE

Note: The pastor search committee meets every week and is thoughtfully taking steps to find a new pastor to succeed Lise after her retirement in June.

CALL TO WORSHIP: Katharine Breunig, dance
OPENING HYMN: #12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"
PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION¹
People of God, we know that sometimes Jesus calls us into discomfort that we might be changed. We hold faith that Christ is with us in our discomfort.

We know that in Christ there is no longer Greek nor Jew, slave nor free, black nor white. We know that in Jesus' first sermon as recorded in Luke, he opened a scroll and read the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.

**1
KENYA!!**



Do you know more than 50 members of our church and local community have travelled to the village of Kaiguchu, have stayed in local homes, worked alongside the people there for the sake of the 140 children orphaned by the HIV/AIDS epidemic?

Another 17 of us will be leaving in two weeks to continue this work!

Your donations next week or on the Go Fund Me page for Kaiguchu-Guilford Children's Project will help carry on the work of providing food, clothing and an education for the poorest of the poor in Kenya.

If you'd like to donate items we are collecting soccer balls and school supplies.

**ASANTE—THANK YOU!!
LENTEN SERIES
for the Earth and its Peoples**

TODAY

4PM: "Taking Root" Film
with Lisa Merton and Alan Dater

Tuesday, March 3

"Climate Church, Climate World"
7PM: Rev. Jim Antal

Sunday, March 8

Vermont Interfaith Action
12PM: Lunch and Discussion

Sunday, March 22

4PM: "Amistad" Film
with Curtiss Reed Jr

Sunday, April 5 10am

PALM SUNDAY

4pm: "Mni Wiconi,
Honoring the Water Protectors"
with John Willis



Sunday, May 3

The Spirituality of Black Elk:
"That the People May Live"
with Dr. Damian Costello

Friday, May 29

CHOIR CONCERT!!

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

We know that Jesus commanded us to love our neighbor as ourselves
and to give up what we have and follow him. We know Jesus

commanded we not only confess, but repent of our sin.

Let us join together in repentance as individuals and as a community.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Through the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we are forgiven all our
sins. Go out in the spirit of repentance, transfigured by hope.

ANTHEM: "Soon I Will Be Done" *African American spiritual*

CHILDREN'S STORY: "The Transfiguration"

PRAYER

CHILDREN'S HYMN: "This Little Light of Mine"

SCRIPTURE: (Carole Crompton)

Psalm 99 ***RPB p.522 ***LPB p. 678

Matthew 17:1-9 ***RPB p.17 ***LPB p.22

SERMON

ANTHEM: "Alleluia" by L. Cohen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (by Maya Angelou)

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

2

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*THE CLOSING HYMN: "Oh, When the Saints!"

O When the Saints Go Marching In
When the saints go marching in

O Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

O when the sun begins to shine
O when the sun begins to shine
O Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

Oh When the air is pure and clean
O When the air is pure and clean
O Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

O When we all have food to eat
O When we all have food to eat
O Lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in !!

SENDING FORTH THE LIGHT
BENEDICTION

*THREEFOLD AMEN: Hymn #291

**invites the congregation to stand*

***RPB=Red Pew Bible ***LPB=Large Print Bible

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**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.**

Everyone is welcome!

+++++

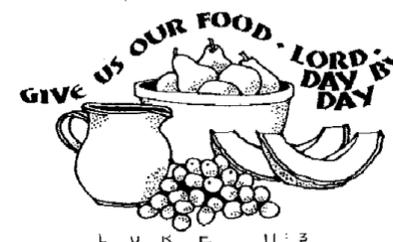
Today we especially thank the volunteers who make this
worship service & the reception after possible.
Service Coordinator for today is Fred Breunig
Greeters: Barry Levitt & Mary Ellen Koehler
Flowers: Patrice Murray
Coffee Hour: Terry Sylvester and the CARE Committee

Mardi Gras, literally "Fat Tuesday," has grown in popularity in recent years but its roots lie in the Christian calendar, as the "last hurrah" before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. That's why the enormous party in New Orleans, for example, ends abruptly at midnight on Wednesday, with battalions of street-sweepers pushing the crowds out of the French Quarter towards home.

Like many holidays and seasonal celebrations, it likely has its roots in pre-Christian traditions based on the seasons. Some believe the festival represented the few days added to the lunar calendar to make it coincide with the solar calendar; since these days were outside the calendar, rules and customs were not obeyed. Others see it as a late-winter celebration designed to welcome the coming spring. As early as the middle of the second century, the Romans observed a Fast of 40 Days, which was preceded by a brief season of feasting, costumes and merrymaking.

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH



SEASONAL OVERFLOW SHELTER

Our next meal is scheduled for March 1.

Rob and Jill Harnish lead the preparation and serve meals the second Sunday of each month. 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 (802) 257-5244 or email: rharn92636@gmail.com.

DONATIONS FOR 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 Community Center, 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.

GUILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

United Church of Christ

MARDI GRAS!

after church

Wednesday, February 26, 7pm

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Sunday, March 1, 10am

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

SPECIAL COLLECTION
Kenya Packing after church

Sunday, April 5 10am

PALM SUNDAY

Thursday, April 9

Seder Supper 5:30pm

TENEBRAE 7pm

Friday, April 10 12-3pm

GOOD FRIDAY

ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Sunday, April 12

EASTER

6am: Sunrise Service

6:30: Pancake Breakfast

10am: FAMILY SERVICE

Alleluia! Alleluia!



SUGAR SUPPER

SATURDAY, MARCH 21



Please spread the word to family & friends!

Menu: Ham, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, deviled

eggs, homemade rolls, and *Maple sugar on snow, with homemade donuts, and dill pickles.*

Seatings: 4:30, 5:45, and 7:00 PM

Prices: Adults \$12; children (11 and under) \$6; preschoolers \$3

Questions: Fred Breunig, 802-254-9019

or fmbreunig@comcast.net

Reservations: call 802-254-9019 or email guilfordchurchsupper@gmail.com

We start taking reservations this week!

And do plan on helping—get to know our church community—it's a great FUN-raiser, too!

Opportunities on Thursday evening, plus Friday and Saturday—something for everyone to do.

GCC Search Committee
Family and Friends of Peter Serkin

Joy Hayes	Joan Seymour	Doris Spahr
Anne Janeway	Elaine Petrie	Carol Jaenson
Theodore Koehler	Oliver Piluski	Herb Meyer
Trudy McNulty	Grace Wahlberg	Carole Crompton
Jay Falk	Diana MacInnes	Angela Daprato
Lois & Chaz Freeman	Mary Grove	Elizabeth Israel
Karen Van Zandt	Peggy Bowler	Mary Ellen Koehler
Ina Schaeffer	Justin	Lori Shriner
Barry Levitt	Nan	William Murray
Prasanna & Sheetal	Jacob	Jim Buchholz and Family
Millie Starr & Family	Kathy Linskey	Ben Coplan

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.

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

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

**Special session NEXT WEEK 2/26
4-5pm
with author, David Frenette**

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.