

Guilford College UMC

July 18th, 2021

8th Sunday After Pentecost

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

You are invited to share in this worship experience while watching the online service that will be live-streamed from our church sanctuary at 11:00am on Sunday morning through our Website, Facebook page, and YouTube Channel. To participate, just click on the correct link below:

**[CLICK HERE TO JOIN ONLINE WORSHIP
THROUGH OUR CHURCH WEBSITE](#)**

or

**[CLICK HERE TO JOIN ONLINE WORSHIP
THROUGH OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)**

or

**[CLICK HERE TO JOIN ONLINE WORSHIP
THROUGH OUR CHURCH'S FACEBOOK PAGE](#)**

The service will remain up in all these places
after that time for later viewing.

Whenever and however you join us today, we hope you will actively participate in the service by following the bulletin below, and by joining in the prayers, responses, and songs.

Let us worship God together!

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WE GATHER TOGETHER

Prelude

Ginny Williamson

Ringing of the Church Bell

WE PRAISE GOD AND PRAY

**^Fellowship Greeting, Opening Hymn
& Opening Prayer**

Gather Us In, #2236

Here in this place new light is streaming
Now is the darkness vanished away
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
Gather us in, the blind and the lame
Call to us now and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of our name

We are the young, our lives are a mystery
We are the old who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history
Called to be light to the whole human race

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
Gather us in, the proud and the strong
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
Give us the courage to enter the song

Not in the dark of buildings confining
Not in some heaven light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining
Now is the kingdom, now is the day
Gather us in and hold us forever
Gather us in and make us your own
Gather us in, all peoples together
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones

Welcome & Praises

Rev. Jeremy Troxler

Unison Prayer

Holy God and Holy Spirit
Come to us, and among us;
Come as the wind, and cleanse us;
Come as the fire, and burn;
Come as the dew, and refresh;
Convict, convert, and consecrate
Our hearts and lives
To our great good
And for your greater glory;
And this we ask in Jesus name. Amen

Children's Moment

Donna Ford (with Jordan)

Prayer Concerns

Rev. Susan Suárez Webster

Call to Prayer

Sweet, Sweet Spirit, UMH #334

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
And for these blessings, we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know, that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD

^Scripture Reading

Acts 8:26-39 (CEB)

26 An angel from the Lord spoke to Philip, "At noon, take the road that leads from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) 27 So he did. Meanwhile, an Ethiopian man was on his way home from Jerusalem, where he had come to worship. He was a eunuch and an official responsible for the entire treasury of Candace. (Candace is the title given to the Ethiopian queen.) 28 He was reading the prophet Isaiah while sitting in his carriage. 29 The Spirit told Philip, "Approach this carriage and stay with it."

30 Running up to the carriage, Philip heard the man reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you really understand what you are reading?”

31 The man replied, “Without someone to guide me, how could I?” Then he invited Philip to climb up and sit with him. 32 This was the passage of scripture he was reading:

Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent so he didn't open his mouth.33 In his humiliation justice was taken away from him. Who can tell the story of his descendants because his life was taken from the earth?

34 The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, about whom does the prophet say this? Is he talking about himself or someone else?” 35 Starting with that passage, Philip proclaimed the good news about Jesus to him. 36 As they went down the road, they came to some water. The eunuch said, “Look! Water! What would keep me from being baptized?” 38 He ordered that the carriage halt. Both Philip and the eunuch went down to the water, where Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Lord's Spirit suddenly took Philip away. The eunuch never saw him again but went on his way rejoicing.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Message
"Along for the Ride"
Rev. Jeremy Troxler

**WE ARE
SENT TO SERVE**

^Sending Hymn

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
FWS, #2153*

I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

^Next Steps & Benediction

Postlude

Offering Our Gifts

Thank you for remembering our church and its ministries in the offerings that you make to God. You may mail your gift to Guilford College UMC at 1205 Fleming Road, Greensboro, NC, 27410, or may drop it off in our secure lockbox outside of our church office. To give to the church online, please visit the secure online giving link at our church website by clicking below:

[CLICK HERE FOR GCUMC ONLINE GIVING](#)

Guilford College UMC
CCLI License #CSPL045089

Gather Us In
Marty Haugen
@1982 GIA Publications, Inc.

Sweet, Sweet Spirit
CCLI Song # 18204
Doris Akers
© 1962. Renewed 1990 Manna Music, Inc.
(Admin. by Gaither Copyright Management)

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me
arr. © Estate of Wendell Whalum
African American Spiritual



QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER REFLECTION AND JOURNEY GROUP DISCUSSION

(Choose any which most interest or speak to you)

1. The story of Philip and the Ethiopian man happens after the angel from the Lord tells Philip to go to a particular place, and after the Spirit nudges him to approach the man's carriage. Have you ever had an experience of the Spirit nudging you to do something or to say something to someone? What was the result? Has there ever been a time when the Spirit nudged you to do something, and you chose not to?
2. How can a person tell when God is prompting them to do something through the Holy Spirit? How do you think we get better at hearing these messages within us and around us? Is there something the Spirit has been prompting you to do recently?
3. Philip began his conversation with the Ethiopian man by listening, and then, by asking a question. It has been said that the most effective evangelism is "ear-vangelism," because it begins by listening to the other person first. Where in your life have you seen the power of listening? Whom do you think of as a good listener, and why? How can you become a better listener?
4. Philip doesn't barge into the Ethiopian man's carriage, but waits for the man to invite him and welcome him – only then does he tell the story about Jesus. What does this fact show us about how we best share the story of Jesus with others? Have you ever encountered someone who "forced" Jesus on you or someone else? What was your or their response?

5. In light of the Ethiopian man's sexual characteristics (he was a eunuch, which means his private parts had been removed or damaged), and his possible exclusion from worship at the Temple, what part about Jesus's story do you think moved or touched him? What do you think this story might teach us about how Christians should approach people of different sexual identities?

6. The Ethiopian man sought baptism, and was clearly transformed by his encounter with Philip. In what way do you think Philip might have been transformed as well? What does this story have to teach the church about how God transforms "them" into "US"?

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GCUMC CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Among those we are praying for:

GRIEVING THE RECENT DEATH OF A LOVED ONE

The Family and Friends of Gayle Luther
The Family and Friends of Jean Wilson
Pamela Steinert in the death of her mother Rita Steinert Forrester
The Family and Friends of Mary Kelly
The Family and Friends of Blanche Rogers
Kent Carter (upon the passing of his sister)
The Family and Friends of Norman Baysore (Diane Derrick's cousin)
The Family and Friends of William Hamilton (a father who took his own life)
Families of Young Persons Killed in a Recent Car wreck near Oak Ridge

SUSTAINING PRAYERS

Rev. Donald McCoy (hospitalized)
Janice Kirkman (severe back pain)
Rickey Vaughn (multiple health issues)
Rita Steinert Forrester (Pamela Steinert's mother - hospice care)
Myrtle Worley (Ann Sykes and Janet Green's mother)
Chrissie Nelson (Len and Debbie Nelson's daughter)
Wannie Hardin and wife Betsy (Sara Hardin's father-in-law - Parkinson's)
Y'Suan Mlo (refugee and immigration status)
Helen Blyshak
Chris Blyshak
Betty Kirkman
Janet Van Hook
Caitlyn Briggs
David Timm

Helen Phillips

SUFFERING FROM CANCER

Reavely Williams (bone cancer treatments)
Jan Vanhoy (upcoming surgery for colon cancer)
Chuck Downey (lymphoma treatments)
Doug Coley (recovering after bone marrow transplant)
Corey Marion
Kay Blackwelder (cancer treatments)
Kathy Cosgrove (cancer treatment)
Mary Ann Boburchuk (Monica Bush's aunt - cancer diagnosis)
Doug Bell (Anita Sandknop's brother)
Debbie Lehman Bauer (Dave and Mary Lehman's daughter - colon cancer)
Gail Byrd (Tina Sumner's sister-in-law - stage 4 breast cancer)
Franklin Butler (Kim Minor's father - skin cancer)
Gene Briggs (Carol Ingram's brother)
David Timm (Bill and Daryl Watkins' friend - cancer)
Rhona Wintersteen (Diane Derrick's cousin)
Karen Buehling (Clarke Crews' sister)
Ken Norris (Tom Patterson's friend - recent cancer surgery)
Jennifer Usher (Dave and Nedine Stump's niece - lymphoma)
Penny Stein (Breast Cancer - friend of Sara Hardin)
Veni (friend of Diane Derrick - lung cancer while pregnant with twins)
Savannah Townsend (stage 1 cancer)
Karen (Judy Hempfling's friend - mastectomy)

**RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS
OR INJURY OR SURGERY**

Y'Bion Mlo (heart surgery)
Debbie Jenkins (back surgery)
Corinne Langone (recovering after a fall)
Charles Crocker (recovering from surgery and strokes)
Russ Woodward
David Robertson
Becca Frank (Sandy Pearman's infant granddaughter)
Addison (Jim and Nancy Baity's great-granddaughter)
Louise LeHeup (Bill LeHeup's mother)
Geri Cope (eye procedure)
Sydney Davis (Marjorie Liles' niece - recovering from heart surgery)
Mary (macular degeneration)
Jim Eldrett (Daryl Watkins' brother - knee surgery)
Reuben (Judy Hempfling's friend - back surgery)
Barbara McLeod (Bronchitis)

UPCOMING TEST RESULTS OR SURGERY

Jack Vanstory (biopsy)
Sue Ostrander (health issues)

*Jessica Loman (heart issues)
Donna Owen
Heather Taylor*

STRUGGLING WITH MENTAL HEALTH

*For Those Experiencing Overwhelming Anxiety
For Those Experiencing Depression
For Those Struggling with Addiction
For Those who struggle with a Mental Disorder*

SUFFERING FROM COVID-19

*Amanda (Judy Hempfling's friend)
Vera and Walter
For all who suffer from COVID-19
For the distribution of the vaccines for COVID-19
People who are unemployed or struggling financially*

PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND WORLD

*For God's Direction regarding the possibility of starting a new Hispanic/Latino Faith Community
Elizabeth and David Gamble + Palmer and Sophia Rae
(missionary service at U of Montana)
For our Preschool Director, Teachers, Students, and Families
For our ministry partners in Kenya
For all law enforcement officers
For an end to racism
For all teachers, educators, families and children
For local, state, and national leaders
For UMCOR and Church World Service Ministries at the Border*

**WORSHIP, GATHER,
GROW, AND GIVE
TOGETHER**

WORSHIP

- **JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN-PERSON THIS SUNDAY AT 8:30AM OR 11:00AM IN THE SANCTUARY**

Reminder:

Masks are optional

You may sit where you'd like

*(except for in the balcony "Health and Safety" zone,
where folks will still wear masks and socially distance.)*

No online sign-up needed - just show up this Sunday!

- **JOIN US FOR ONLINE WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT 11:00 AM (OR LATER)** - If in-person worship isn't right for you, our live-stream broadcast online service will premiere at 11:00 am on Sunday, and will remain up for later viewing. Please worship with us online by clicking on your preferred online worship link below:

[CLICK HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE WORSHIP THROUGH THE GCUMC WEBSITE](#)

or

[CLICK HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE WORSHIP THROUGH GCUMC'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)

or

[CLICK HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN ONLINE WORSHIP THROUGH GCUMC'S FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

- **NO OUTDOOR SUNDAY WORSHIP THIS WEEK – NO 6PM SUNDAY SERVICE IN JULY AND AUGUST** – We have decided to “pause” our 6pm outdoor worship service for the time being, both because of the hotter weather and also because of a need to renew and refresh our worship leaders. We do plan to bring back outdoor worship, however, in the late summer. Many of us have discovered what a blessing it can be to worship outside, and we also believe that outdoor worship can become a wonderful tool to reach new people who find it hard to walk into a church building. Thanks to all who have made our outdoor worship service such a success - Stay tuned for what form outdoor worship will take next!
- **HEALING SERVICE ON JULY 25TH** - On Sunday, July 25 at 4 pm The Western Guilford Missional Network invites you to a Healing Service at Sandy Ridge UMC located at 2223 Sandy Ridge Road in High Point, NC 27265. Everyone is invited. Melanie will be leading the music for this

special service. Contact Pastor Susan if you have further questions: ssuarezwebster@guilfordcollegeumc.org

CONNECT

- **THANK YOU FOR CONNECTING!** On the first 3 Monday evenings in June, the Partnership Village Ministry Team offered a special Bible Time where the children played games, shared Bible stories and received a new Bible or Bible storybook. Jeannie Symonds, Paster Jeremy, Margaret, Della and Ada Troxler came to help. Each child decorated their own special Bible bag. Judy Newlin and the PV team provided snacks and spent time engaging with each child. Bible Bingo was their favorite game! The children also participated in a Bible Dedication Service led by Pastor Susan, Pat Gunn and Sherrie Ivey. Pastor Jeremy, Jeannie Symonds and David Lehman led outdoor games. In all, 18 children received Bible storybooks or Bibles. We praise God for these opportunities to nurture relationships of trust and friendship with the children. We all are growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- **UMYF LUNCH BUNCH FOR TEENS WEDNESDAYS.** Questions? Contact Youth Director Randy Wall (rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org)
- **YOUTH MISSION DAY "IMPACTING HOMELESSNESS" JULY 16TH, 12:30 - 5:00 PM.** Youth are invited to come join us as we talk about homelessness while doing a mission project. Questions? Contact Youth Director Randy Wall (rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org)

GROW

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADES K-6** - Both groups are meeting in-person outdoors on the back field under the tents or around the fire pit on Sunday mornings 9:45-10:45 a.m. We hope to see you there! Questions? Please contact Donna Ford at email address dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org
- **FAITH FILES (GRADES 4-6) AND FAITH FRIENDS (GRADES K-3) WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY @ 6:30PM** – Both groups are meeting in-person outdoors in the back parking lot throughout the summer, weather permitting. Questions? Contact Director of Christian Education Donna Ford at dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org.

- **YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES THIS SUNDAY JULY 11, 9:30 AM, IN THE ROCK** - Questions? Contact Youth Director Randy Wall (rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org)
- **NO SUNDAY UMYF FOR TEENAGERS DURING THE SUMMER** - Our meetings will be lunch at noon on Wednesday and Thursday evening at 6:30pm. Questions? Contact Youth Director Randy Wall (rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org)
- **PRISCILLA SHIRER LIVE SIMULCAST FOR WOMEN** – Ladies mark your calendars for this women’s discipleship event coming Saturday, September 25, 2021. GCUMC Sanctuary from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Details to follow in coming months so mark your calendars!
- **2021-GCUMC PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP - For 2 years to 5 years old** - Themes include *Beach & Ocean Week, Red/White/Blue Week, Ocean Animals, Superheroes, Magical Fairytale Adventures, Space & Zoo Animals*. The camps run Monday-Thursday from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. during the following weeks: July 12-15 and July 19-22. Snack provided daily but you must supply peanut-free lunch & water bottle. Cost is \$125 per camper + \$25 Registration fee. Summer Registration form available on our website at <http://guilfordcollegeumc.org/children> . Please make checks payable to GCUMC Preschool. Questions: Contact Denisa LeHeup at 336-294-6730

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR
2021 PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP](#)**

- **GUILFORD COLLEGE UMC PRESCHOOL FALL REGISTRATION IN PROGRESS FOR 2021-22 PRESCHOOL YEAR** - We have an exceptional early childhood program with engaging activities that enables children to make new friends & learn to socialize together and, a faith-based curriculum taught by great teachers! For further information, please email or call the Preschool Director, Denisa LeHeup @ dleheup@guilfordcollegeumc.org, or call 336-294-6730-Preschool Office. Check-out our website at: www.guilfordcollegeumc.org and/or Facebook Page at: GCUMC Preschool

Ages-14 months up to 5 year olds
School Hours: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.- Monday-Friday

GIVE

- **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE, THURSDAY, JULY 22nd**, you can give the gift of life by donating blood from 1:30 to 6 pm. Sign up at redcross.org to give blood right here at our church. The Red Cross reports that there is a **SEVERE SHORTAGE**. Donors are strongly urged to give now to help ensure lifesaving blood products are available for patients. Hospital demand continues to outpace donations, and your help is vital.
- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MOBILE VBS**. Please consider assisting with Mobile VBS on the following dates when we will take VBS on the road to local neighborhoods – July 26-28; August 9-11. All events will be outdoors from 6:30-8:00 p.m. for three consecutive evenings. No pre-planning required. Volunteers will assist Bible story, crafts, science, or games as needed each night. Children and parents will enjoy this experience together! Please contact Donna Ford to sign up or for more information, dford@guilfordcollegeumc.org.
- **KIDZ N'MORE CONSIGNMENT SALE, AUG 1-7; VOLUNTEERS AND CONSIGNORS NEEDED** - We need volunteers and consignors for the consignment sale. This sale is a fundraiser and ministry for the community. We provide a marketplace for quality clothing, toys, equipment, and shoes. We will need 50-100 volunteers for this ministry. Please consider volunteering as a greeter, room monitor, floater, help setup, cleanup, and marketing. Click [Here](#) for volunteer sign up. If you want to consign click [here](#). Contact Randy Wall via office phone or email at rwall@guilfordcollegeumc.org if you have any questions.
- **SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2021 WILL BE A CHURCH SERVING DAY** - We will be **Painting the Town** with **Community Housing Solutions**, so if you like to paint while you serve God and your neighbor, please place this date on your calendar. Partnering with **Rise against Hunger** we will also be packing meals to serve our brothers and sisters who are malnourished. The meal packing will be held in the fellowship hall at GCUMC.
- **GCUMC MAGNETS FOR SALE** – High quality 4x6 inch oval magnets perfect for car, refrigerator, file cabinets, or any metal surface. Proceeds support GCUMC Children's Ministry. \$5 for one magnet or \$8 for two. Additional magnets \$3 each. Once purchased, magnets will be mailed to the address provided through online order. Thank you!

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE MAGNETS](#)

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THE NEXT WEEK'S

SCHEDULE OF GATHERINGS

Thursday, July 15th

Quilting Group in the Rock at 9:30am
Youth Fun Night (Grades 7-12) on the Back Field from 6:30-7:30pm
Summer Bible Study in Room A4 at 6:30pm
NarAnon in the Rock at 7:00pm

Friday, July 16th

Summer Reading Fun in the Children's Building from 9:00am – Noon
Youth Mission Day starts at the Children's Building from 12:30-5:00pm

Saturday, July 17th

Family Day Camp at Camp Guilrock from 9am – 2:30pm
Sr. Voice Recital in the Sanctuary at 2:00pm

Sunday, July 18th

In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary at 8:30am
Various Learning Groups for Children, Youth and Adults at 9:45am
In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary and Livestream Broadcast at 11am

Monday, July 19th

Preschool Summer Camp Week #4 July 19-22
Triad Bridge Club in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30pm
Boy Scouts in Rooms C10, C11, C13 & C14 at 7:00pm
NA in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm

Wednesday, July 21st

Wednesday Noon Prayer in the Sanctuary at 12pm
Youth Lunch Bunch in the Rock at 12pm
Faith Files/Faith Friends (Grades K-6th) in the Back Field from 6:30-7:30pm

Thursday, July 22nd

Quilting Group in the Rock at 9:30am
Red Cross Blood Drive in the Fellowship Hall from 1:30-6:30pm
Youth Fun Night in the Back field at 6:30pm
Summer Bible Study in Room A4 at 6:30pm
NarAnon in the Rock 7:00pm

Friday, July 23rd

Summer Reading Fun in the Children's Building from 9:00am – Noon

Sunday, July 25th

In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary at 8:30am

Coffee with the Pastors in the Parlor after Worship Service
Various Learning Groups for Children, Youth and Adults at 9:45am
In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary and Livestream Broadcast at 11am
Coffee with the Pastors in the Parlor after Worship Service

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