



According to the Bible, our mission is twofold:

to love people...

...and to teach people to love.

MISSION SUNDAY

GUILFORD PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 28, 2024

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

The prelude is a time of transition, from hurried lives into the eternal presence of God. At the sound of the bells, we invite you to make this a time of prayerful preparation for worship. Our service is live-streamed and recorded. Your participation is your consent to be recorded

+all are invited to rise in body or in spirit.

You are invited to read aloud the words in **bold**.

Sing! a new creation - located in the rack under the pew (green)

Glory to God Hymnal (purple)

Confession is a hallmark of the Reformed tradition. We believe that it is important to begin worship by confessing the ways we've fallen short of God's intention for us.

Trusting in the everlasting mercy of God, each confession is concluded by the **Assurance of Pardon**, a liturgical reminder that no sin is so powerful as to keep us from the love of God.

During the **Passing of the Peace** you're invited to greet one another by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you" and responding "And also with you."

The **Prayer for Illumination** is a prayer asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance to help us interpret scripture faithfully with critical minds and compassionate hearts.

PRELUDE

+GATHERING SONGS

We Are An Offering *Sing! a new creation #230*
Take, O Take Me As I Am *Sing! a new creation #215*

+WELCOME

Rev. Stephen Fearing

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Jenny Beale

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Presence, Life, Fire, God who is Three in One,
we confess that we have turned away from you.
We gaze upon ourselves as if we are worthy of worship.
We take your creation into our hands, not to love, but to use and then to discard.
We go to the people of the land, not to serve, but to press them into our service.
We do not deserve that you would even notice us,
but we pray for mercy because you are merciful.
Flame of Love, purify us from sin; Eternal Now, lead us to your truth;
Risen One, baptize us into union with you.
Transform us into faithful disciples who worship you alone,
God who is Trinity. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

+PRAYER RESPONSE

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES FOR MISSION

Tara Sandercock and Marcus Harrington

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jenny Beale

FIRST LESSON

Matthew 28:19-20

Heather Amick

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

1 Peter 4:10

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.

Holy wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *Let Them See You In Me* JJ Weeks
Lisa Jones and Brian Fitts, soloists

TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Kim Row

SECOND LESSON Galatians 6:9-10 Steve Sandercock
So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.
Holy wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

GUEST SPEAKER Brian Hahne, CEO Greensboro Urban Ministries

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

+HYMN #700 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* I'M GONNA LIVE

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Confession of 1967 Korey Hickling
To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call. The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

You're invited to scan the QR code to add one or more prayer requests. Or, you can go to www.menti.com and use code 3246 8823. Please remember that all entries are public information. Take care to refrain from sharing any information about someone else unless you're sure you have their consent to do so.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Hymn #700: This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.

The Confession of 1967: The Confession of 1967 addresses the church's role in the modern world. Responsive to developments in biblical scholarship, it asks the church to "approach the Scriptures with literary and historical understanding" (paragraph 9.29). It calls the church to obedient action, particularly in response to social problems such as racial discrimination, nationalistic arrogance, and family and class conflict. It sees the life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ as the pattern for the church's mission today and calls on all Christians to be reconciled to God and to one another.



Prayer Cards are available in the pew pockets to be passed to our prayer team. You may drop your prayer request in the offering plate.

Text GPPC to
73256 to give
online.



Hymn #69: The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain. It is also Pastor Stephen's least favorite hymn that he usually schedules to be sung on Sundays when he's away on vacation. But will anyone actually read this and call him out on it?

+DOXOLOGY LASST UNS ERFREUEN
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GO IN GOD'S NAME

+HYMN #69 *Here I Am, Lord* HERE I AM

+BENEDICTION Korey Hickling

+BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Glory to God Hymnal #700*
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

+POSTLUDE *March* Alexandre Guilmant

END OF WORSHIP.....BEGINNING OF SERVICE

The second pew on the pulpit side is reserved for those who are hearing impaired.
Hearing aid devices are available at the sound desk.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LOOSE OFFERING on the last Sunday of each month (today) will be designated to go to the Deacons' Fund. These funds are distributed at the Pastor's discretion for urgent financial needs within our congregation as well as emergency funding for needy individuals in our community.

Breakfast and the Bible is every Sunday at 9 a.m. Free breakfast with Bible story and song. Families welcome. Westminster Room.

Join us for The Word This Week, Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Library.

Monday Night Bible Study— Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Library

2024 Guilford Park Mission Fundraiser Dessert Auction— The Mission Fundraiser Dessert Auction TODAY in the Fellowship Hall at 11:15 a.m....right after worship today.

The Justice & Peacemaking Committee will be sharing "letter writing kits" for hunger advocacy in conjunction with our upcoming Mission Dessert Auction on April 28. While our annual *Offering of Letters* for Bread for the World is set for later in June, we want to give those who are interested an early start in preparing letters for this year's effort. Stop by our table at the Dessert Auction to pick up your kit and learn more about the important work of Bread for the World and how you can heed our call to hunger advocacy through our letters to members of Congress on behalf of hungry people at home and around the globe. ***For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.***

Matthew 25:35

TREE OF GIVING– During the months of April and May, we invite our GPPC congregation to donate items to the **Family Service of the Piedmont**. Family Service of the Piedmont is a private, not-for-profit agency focused on building safe and healthy families in the Piedmont Triad. They serve more than 19,000 clients each year, addressing issues of domestic violence, child abuse, mental health, and financial stability. More information can be found on their website at <https://www.fspscares.org/>. See your eNews for the complete list of needed supplies.

Cooper Kirkpatrick is organizing a get ready for summer day on May 4 at Camp Carefree! Read his letter in the upcoming May Guidepost or see it on the Youth bulletin board and sign up alongside our children and youth to help. [Camp Carefree - Community Volunteers: Camp Carefree: Revamp the Camp - Workday 2024 \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

Let's fight hunger together! Beginning now through the month of April, please bring some canned meat every time you come to church on Sundays. Any type of canned meat will be much appreciated and can be placed in the GUM collection boxes in the main hallway. Greensboro Urban Ministry is serving many more families at their food pantry than in the past. The need is great and we can help! Thanks so much. Guilford Park Mission Committee

Baseball Outing is Sunday, May 5, at 2:00. Guilford Park Presbyterian Church has a block of Grasshoppers tickets behind home plate. Buy tickets directly from Fellowship Committee chair Jim Lumsden, jimlumsden3744@gmail.com or 847-840-5302. Invite friends and neighbors.

Buddy and Me are monthly activities for children grade 2 and under along with their favorite buddy. We meet on the second Saturday for fellowship and support at church or a scheduled field trip.

May 11 Saturday, 2nd Saturday fun with baking. Come and make some cookies to share (maybe with Mom?) and enjoy. Please contact for Kay Owen or Kim Row to let us know you are coming or get more details.

May 19 Sunday, It's Pentecost! Join us in worship for an opening processional of streamers.

Make sure you are on the email for upcoming activity details. Contact Kim Row, krow@guilfordpark.org or Kay Owen 72kowen@gmail.com to get on the B.A.M.! email list.

The Burlington Boys Choir will sing a short concert of sacred and secular music in our sanctuary on May 19. The program will begin at 10:45 a.m. immediately following an abbreviated 10 a.m. worship service. There will be an offering collected for the Boys Choir during the concert.

PW Salad Supper May 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall– Calling all women to bring a salad to PW's Annual Salad Supper. Honorary Lifetime Membership for 2024 will be announced. Previous Honorary Lifetime Membership recipients will be recognized for their years of service to GPPC. The evening guarantees plenty of great salads, plus fellowship and camaraderie among all GPPC women. Sign up by May 19 on the PW Bulletin Board.

Graduate Sunday is coming! We want to celebrate your graduate in our church community. If you know of a high school, college, or program graduate please contact Kim Row, krow@guilfordpark.org. We would like to acknowledge them in worship. They do not have to be present. Send their name, graduating from where, future plans, and a picture.

VBS Dates and Theme are set! Register now at <https://vbspro.events/p/guilfordpark>.

Check It Out– I learned a new word a few weeks ago – **REREDOS**. Two points for you if you know the definition without looking it up on your phone. A reredos is an ornamental screen covering at the back of an altar or, in our church, behind the communion table. The three-panel reredos in our church depicts the trinity as do the three panels of the communion table. The left panel is a star of David, for God the Father. The center panel is Chi Rho, for God the Son. The right panel shows seven flames, for God the Holy Spirit. These panels were designed by our architect, Hansel Fink and were carved by Harold Barrier, Bill Hall, Ernest Skillman, Fred Waterhouse, Robert Wechter, and Jake Webb. Come up to the chancel area after church to look at the beautifully carved panels of our **reredos** and **communion table**.

Mission Activities and Opportunities at Guilford Park

God's Work. Our Hands.

Many Guilford Park committees, individuals, and families are engaged in service and mission-oriented activities! While today's service features activities under the Mission Committee umbrella, thanks go to everyone who engages in service and mission throughout the church and our community!!

Welcome to all who seek a new opportunity!

Mission Committee Chair: Lisa Jones; Vice-chair: Heather Amick; Members: Jenny Beale, Kelly Finch, Ed Hendricks, Korey Hickling, Bob Kollar, Marti Randall, Steve Sandercock, Tara Sandercock, Mike Sasser, E. B. Taylor, and you?

Programs for the Community

- **Guilford Park Guys** - Youth mentoring and enrichment program on Thursday nights – basketball and snacks too! Students' families reside in Greensboro Urban Ministry's Partnership Village. College student mentors from NCA&T and GPPC volunteers work with the guys each week.
- **The Renaissance Project** is a group of male students from NCA&T. They meet in our Fellowship Hall quarterly to discuss plans on how they serve the community and how to live their best lives. They tutor elementary and middle school students, sponsor food drives, support people experiencing homelessness, hold events, and advocate for ending violence in our community.

Community Collections

- **Tree of Giving** – bring items to church to donate to nonprofits for helping clients.
- **Blood Drives** – periodic blood collection events
- **Ongoing Food Collection** for Gso Urban Ministry – baskets to collect anytime you are at church!
- **Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event collection drives** (e.g., Diapers for Greensboro Urban Ministry; Food for Mustard Seed Health Clinic's pantry)
- **Honor Cards** are sold benefitting local nonprofits at Christmastime.

Service in the Community

- **Serving Meals** at Greensboro Urban Ministry's Potter's House – Preparing casseroles and Serving Meals (9-10 times per year)
- **Resettlement Assistance** with Refugee Family – welcoming, providing a home, and navigating the community
- **Recovery Café of Greensboro** – volunteering in this new community center supporting people recovering from addiction, trauma, mental health challenges, and homelessness at Presbyterian Church of the Cross
- **CROP HUNGER WALK** – for over 4 decades, Guilford Park has participated in/ walked as a team in the Greensboro CROP Walk raising funds to help fight hunger. October 6, 2024

Mission Trips

- **Youth** Mission Trips, **Adult** Mission Trips – domestic and international

Support for Mission Partners/Missionaries

- Orange Feather Community School, Ghana
- Hebron USA – Feliciano family in Chiapas, Mexico
- Tracey King Ortega assisting organizations in Nicaragua

Board Service – representing Guilford Park

- Presbyterian Counseling Center, Sanctuary House, Massanetta Springs Conference Center

Benevolent Gifts

Part 1 – Annual Budget Line Items provide support for:

- ⇒ Greensboro Urban Ministry
- ⇒ Presbyterian Counseling Center
- ⇒ Montreat Conference Center
- ⇒ Massanetta Springs Conference Center
- ⇒ Union Presbyterian Seminary
- ⇒ Salem Presbytery
- ⇒ Shepherd's Center of Greensboro (transferred from Adult Ed Committee)
- ⇒ Hot Dish and Hope – meals for people experiencing homelessness at First Presbyterian Church

Part 2 - Special Gifts

- ***Disaster Relief*** (e.g., Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – earthquake recovery and Maui fire recovery; and
 - ⇒ World Central Kitchen – food service in Ukraine)
- ***Community Campaigns***
 - ⇒ Recovery Café of Greensboro based at Presbyterian Church of the Cross
 - ⇒ Hope Hub Campaign/Kellin Foundation Mental Health Services
 - ⇒ Massanetta Capital Campaign Fund (gift over 3 years)

Part 3 - Benevolent Gifts to local nonprofits through the Committee's annual giving cycle, e.g.,

- ⇒ Faith Action International House
- ⇒ Interactive Resource Center
- ⇒ A Simple Gesture
- ⇒ Habitat for Humanity
- ⇒ Mustard Seed Community Health Clinic
- ⇒ Mobile Meals of Senior Resources of Guilford
- ⇒ Sanctuary House
- ⇒ Triad Health Project
- ⇒ UKirk Greensboro (based at UNCG)
- ⇒ Wheels4Hope
- ⇒ Greensboro Faith Leaders Council
- ⇒ NCCJ (NC for Community and Justice)
- ⇒ Step Up Ministry
- ⇒ Renaissance Project (NCA&T Guys mentoring group)

Celebrating the Sunset of Two Long-Term programs

- ***IRC Lunches*** – Over 10 years, provided over 6,000 bag lunches to clients at Interactive Resource Center (IRC) serving people experiencing homelessness (60 per month). Thanks to Marti Randall and Kay Cheshire for making the meals. We continue our financial support for IRC.
- ***Angel Tree Gifts*** – for children with a parent incarcerated. Thanks to Heather Amick for coordinating, to our Youth for hosting the yearly Angel Tree party, and to the congregation for donating presents.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Ushers: Bob and Ashlyn McClellan
Liturgist: Heather Amick
A/V operator: Dylan Lewellyn
Opening/Closing: John Parker/Scott Moore
Flower Visitation: Ellen Weiner
Bread Delivery: Maggie Styers

FLOWERS ON THE LORD'S TABLE today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Carole S. Richardson, by the Stiles family.

Ministers: All the members of the Church

Pastor: Stephen Fearing
Parish Associate: Kit Schooley
Parish Associate: Fred Beck
Christian Educator for Children and Youth: Kim Row
Director of Music Ministries and Organist: Bill Allred
Music Director for YES Worship Service: Brian Fitts
Church Administrator: Jane Sharpe
YES Accompanist: Jordan Hart
Preschool Director: Rebecca Willoughby
Missionaries we support: Jan Feliciano in Mexico, and Tracey King-Ortega in Nicaragua

Guilford Park is an Earth Care Congregation. Today's bulletins are printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper. Please recycle in the baskets at each exit from the sanctuary.

GPPC Elders:

Class of 2024

Mary Bruce
Kay Cheshire
Lisa Jones
Jansen Lasley
Kay Owen
Don Yelton
Owen Beale— Youth Elder

Class of 2025

Katherine Glasgow
Bill Hickling
Brad Kemmerer
Leslie Loyd
Jim Lumsden
Tim Peck

Class of 2026

Heather Amick
Mike Bivona
André Conway
Rita Jennings
Jill Moore
John Parker

GUILFORD PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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