

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LACONIA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MARCH 8, 2026 9:30 A.M.

THIRD WEDNESDAY IN LENT

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING AND JUST PEACE CHURCH



REV. ELIZA TWEEDY, PASTOR
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Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey

You are welcome in this place.

Introit

O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns be Rising

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

O come let us worship and lift our hearts, not because the world is good and last week was awesome, but because the earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the God of the whole Earth.

O come let us worship and open our minds, not because our lives are all sweetness and light, but because even those who walk in darkness can see a great light, the Bright and Morning Star.

O come let us worship and bow down, not because God gives us what we want, but because God gives us what we need – living water, and love beyond all measure.

***Hymn 489**

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your thirsting people. For every time we have attributed your miracles in our lives to our own hands alone,

Forgive us, we pray.

For every time we promised to trust you but turned to our own way when your response did not come soon enough or in the way we expected,

Grant us mercy, O God.

For the many opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused,

Show us what it means to love, again, dear Lord.

For each way we put our own understandings above your wisdom, for each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those who believe differently from us,

Direct us in the way of peace, we pray.

For our silent sins, our quiet acts of violence, and our indifference to the suffering round us,

Forgive us, Loving One, and quench our thirst with your grace; remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion. For Christ's sake we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Because of God's great love for us, we have peace with God and access to God's grace all through Jesus Christ who, while we were still sinners,

died to free us from the bondage of sin. Therefore, we may ask of Christ to give us the living water that quenches the dryness of our souls. In this we know we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Scripture John 4:5-42

Insert

Anthem A Lenten Meditation Douglas E. Wagner

Sermon Everything I've Done

Prayers of the People

Prayer of our Savior

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Offertory Take This Moment John L. Bell

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God for all that love has done

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

We come before you, O God, in gratitude and praise. For you know us, fully and completely - everything we are and everything we have ever done - and you love us beyond measure. And so we bring our gifts before you, not to earn your love, but because our response to receiving grace is to share it widely. In our giving, we testify to your presence, to your goodness, to your love for us and for the world. Amen.

***Hymn 326 Crashing Waters at Creation**

***Benediction**

Benediction Response Amen

Postlude Tuba Tune in D Major Criag Sellar Lang

Having studied at the Royal College of Music, New Zealand-born British composer C.S. Lang (1891-1971) put Opus 15.

* Please stand

adapted from a prayer written by Leonard Sweet, posted on **Preach the Story.
<https://preachthestory.com/>

*** written by the Rev. Renee C. Jackson. Posted on the United Church of Christ's **Worship Ways** website. <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>

Altar Flowers Blessed Thank you to all who make our church so strong, loving and caring.
Prayers of healing and pain reduction for my son Mark.
Given by Linda Swenson

Coffee Hour Host March 8th Outreach
Coffee Hour Host March 15th Parish Activities

Book Club – March 25th 1p.m. in the Library
Theo of Golden by Allen Levi

Women's Breakfast March 18th, 8:30AM at the Water Street Cafe
Men's Breakfast March 6th & 20th, 8:00 AM at the Water Street Café

Donate here for the mission and ministry of the church!
Did you hear something you want to revisit? Or share?
Find us on YouTube! <https://bit.ly/LacoCongoLive>

