

The Congregational Church of Laconia
United Church of Christ
18 Veterans Square
Laconia, NH 03246-3425

Rev. Neil H. Wilson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Paula B. Gile, Associate Pastor
K. Robert Bengtson, Director of Music
(603) 524-0668



Preparing

Organ Prelude

K. Robert Bengtson

Meditative Thought *"The Lord is more constant and far more extravagant than it seems to imply. Wherever you turn your eyes the world can shine like transfiguration. You don't have to bring a thing to it except a little willingness to see. Only, who could have the courage to see it?"*

~ Marilyn Robinson

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

"Together We Serve"

Chancel Choir

Praising

Call to Worship (seated Congregation respond with bold print.)

God, you bring us together in this place,

We come to be fed, to be renewed, to seek understanding.

God, you challenge us in this place,

We embrace the challenge, trusting that through challenge we grow in faith.

God, you are revealed in this place,

Sometimes in shining glory, sometimes in tears and struggle.

God as we worship in this place,

Refresh, renew, and challenge us so that we would see your awesomeness.

God, you've brought into this place,

Here we strive to walk the path of discipleship.

*Opening Hymn

"We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding"

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Invocation (unison)

We, who stumble and fall so often, worship you, longing for your light to shine upon us. Dazzle us with your holy love, draw us into your purifying presence, speak to us your transforming truth.

Then, grant us grace to live every moment changed by such glory—

daring to live with hope and courage and love reflecting the life of Jesus, through whom your glory shines and through whose words we pray:

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 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

A Moment with our Children

Rev. Paula Gile

Passing of the Peace & the Gloria

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-jah, Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-jah, Halle,
Halle, Halle-lu-jah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Musical Offering

"Teach Me, O Lord"

Chancel Choir

Reflecting & Praying

Scripture Reading

Luke 9:28-43

Pew Bible p. 944

Sermon 19:50

"A Signpost on the Mountain"

Rev. Neil Wilson

Meditative Moment

Prayer Preparation

"Spirit of the Living God"

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Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Pastoral Prayer

(Yellow prayer cards may be placed in the offering plate.)

Prayer Response

"Dear Lord and Father"

Chancel Choir

Committing

Stewardship Invitation

Offertory

"In This Moment of Remembrance"

Chancel Choir

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, you heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

***Prayer of Consecration/Dedication** (unison)

**Knowing that many voices clamor and compete, we pray that these offerings
given may become symbolic of our decision to follow in the way of Jesus,
and to serve you, the one God. Amen.**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Going to Serve

***Closing Hymn**

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

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***Pastoral Benediction**

Benediction Response

"Celtic Alleluia"

Organ Postlude

***Rise, if able and moved.**

This Week's Committee Meetings and Gatherings

Today, Mar.3 - 10:45 a.m. Bell Choir Practice
Membership Information Gathering
12:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
4:00 p.m. Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
9:30 p.m. Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
Monday, Mar. 4 - 4:00 p.m. Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
Tuesday, Mar. 5 - 6:30 p.m. Membership Committee Mtg
7:00 p.m. Stitches of Love Knitting Circle
Wednesday, Mar. 6 - 6:30 p.m. Outreach Ministry Mtg
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday, Mar. 7- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Friday, Mar. 8 - 1:00 p.m. Communication Committee Mtg
Next Sunday, Mar. 10 - 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Some Announcements

Book Study "Canoeing the Mountains" The last session will be This Tuesday March 5
There are two options noon or 6:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service Begin the season of Lent by joining with your sisters and brothers for the service this week 7:00p.m. in the sanctuary.

Sharing a Legacy Planning Series The Stewardship Committee has organized a series of three information sessions which address important components of legacy planning and sharing. The talks will be held in the Church Library at 11:00, immediately following coffee hour. Each session will last about one hour. We invite you to attend.

March 10 - Funeral Planning with Craig Beane

April 14 - Medical Planning with Oriana Filiault

Interested in Church Membership Today after worship in the Church Library there will be a gathering with Pastor Neil and members of the Membership Committee. It will be a time to ask questions and become better acquainted.

Summer Mission/Work trip We are planning on one this Summer to work with the Maine Seacoast Mission Home Rehabilitation Program in Cherryfield, ME the week of July 14-19. Interested speak to Pastor Neil, neil@laconiaucc.org (603) 524-0668.

Welcome & Information

Welcome to our service of worship! Please introduce yourself to those sitting near you & use a pew rack card to inform us of requests.

Wireless hearing assistance devices, back cushions, large print bulletins & children's bulletins are available; please ask an usher.

Faith Formation: After the Moment with our Children, children/youth in grades 1-8 are invited to meet across The Bridge in the Yellow Room. We are currently learning about the Love of Neighbor through a variety of experiences and service projects. Confirmation students are welcome to join in the fun and assist the younger kids.

Children's Offering: With great enthusiasm the children are collecting money to donate to World Vision to provide clean water to communities in need. Many Church members are contributing by donating coins in the Change for the Church containers available at each door. Place filled containers in the offering plate or give them to one of the young people.

Nursery & Child Care: Children younger than 1st grade are welcome in the Nursery before the service begins or following the Moment with our Children. Please escort your child to the Nursery room across The Bridge and pick them up after the service. Visitors are always welcome!

Yellow prayer request cards are available in pews. Write your request(s) and place them in the offering plate. Our prayer disciples will pray during the week.

Our Service is video recorded and published.

Our Greeter today is John Gill

Today's Ushers are Martha Crane, Martha Kruse, Martha Clement , Margie Kreitler

The Altar Flowers today are given *In loving memory of our parents, Pearl and Maurice Favreau; and, Evelyn and Edward Bastille, Sr.* by Maurine and Richard Bastille.

Join us for a time of fellowship downstairs following the service for refreshments served by the Outreach Ministry. Fair Trade coffee is served in biodegradable cups. We are a *Just Peace* Church caring for our environment.

Astounding Glory
UCC Women's Week - March 3-9, 2019

From time to time it is good to stop talking and listen. Just as an awestruck and babbling Peter was reminded by God, "This is my Child, my Chosen; listen!" we also sometimes need a reminder. How glorious Peter's reminder must have been on that day!

During our days, we consume ourselves with the crush of work, news of the world, and other obligations. We forget the divine is all around us, a still-speaking God who leads and guides us.

Let's commit to listening this week and trying these 7 things:

Sunday: Spend some time with God today and commit to letting grace speak through your life.

Monday: Ask God to shake off our complacency and forgive us for failing to listen for the Holy One's voice.

Tuesday: Spend time with God at the end of the day reflecting on what has happened and examining your thoughts, intentions, and heart.

Wednesday: Listen to what God is calling you to do this week: help the elderly, welcome a new friend, volunteer at a women's shelter, clean up the neighborhood.

Thursday: Spend time not only seeking God, but sharing God among your circle of friends; find the Holy One's Voice together.

Friday: Spend time outdoors listening to the sounds of God's magnificent creation.

Saturday: Journal about what gets in the way of hearing God's call for your life.

This is Women's Week at the United Church of Christ

This week, think of Queen Vashti, who was summoned to an elaborate party by King Xerxes that she refused. Not allowing herself to become objectified, she lost favor and was banned from the King's presence, but maintained something more valuable, her dignity. Think of Queen Esther, who risked her life to foil a plot to annihilate her fellow Jewish people. As you celebrate Women's Week, remember Queen Vashti and Queen Esther. Their lasting legacies inspire not only women, but all who stand up for justice and freedom. (Book of Esther)



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