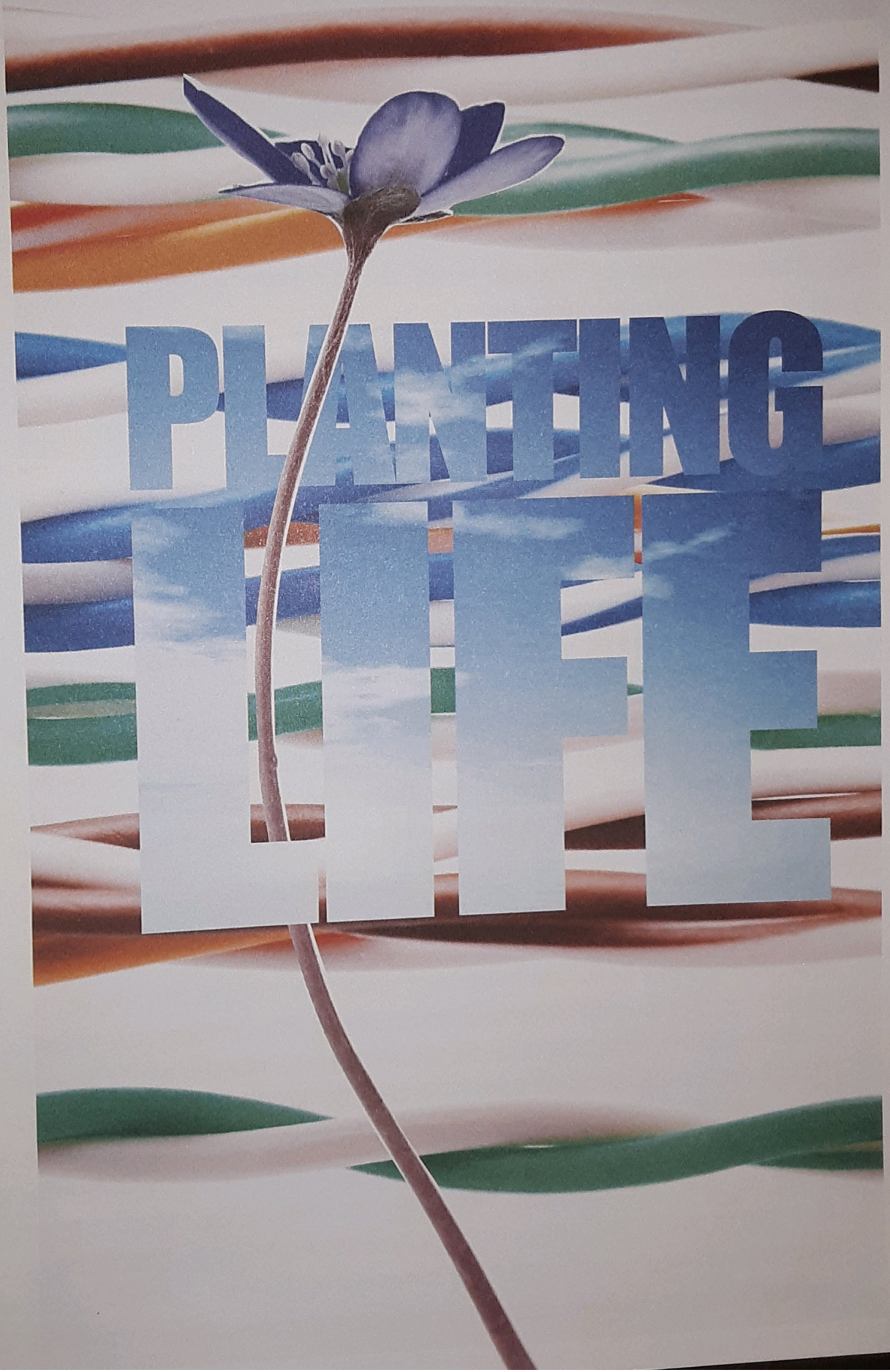


Rev. Neil H. Wilson, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Paula B. Gile, Associate Pastor  
K. Robert Bengtson, Director of Music  
Church office: (603) 524-0668

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



# Gathering for Worship

October 13, 2019

www.laconiaucc.org

9:30 a.m.

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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*The Congregational Church of Laconia, United Church of Christ, is a welcoming Christian community with a scriptural foundation seeking Justice and peace for all.*

## Preparing

**Organ Prelude**

K. Robert Bengtson

**Meditative Thought** *"The ego hates losing – even to God."* – Richard Rohr

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Mission/Stewardship Moment**

Ed Darling

**Introit**

*"Praise the Lord, His Glories Show"*

Chancel Choir

## Praising

**Call to Worship** (Congregation responds with bold print.)

We are like the young bird, making our way to the top of the nest,  
ready to take flight

**Our trust lies with you, Holy One, lift us up under your hands**

As the sun peaks over the horizon, we are like the flowers,  
opening ourselves to the world

**Our nourishment comes from you, Holy One, shine your love down upon us**

And when the moon rises high, we are like the wolves, rejoicing in its sight

**Unable to contain our joy in you, Holy One, we shout our praises to the heavens**

**Let us rise up and sing to the one who lives in us and surrounds us with love**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*"God of Change and Glory"*

# 177

**Invocation** (Unison) (adaptation of Lord's Prayer by Parker J. Palmer)

Holy, life-giving God, you have sent your Spirit down among us, to flow in, around and through us. Help us to feel its presence in our lives. Allow us to move and flow with the Spirit, bringing with us the love you have shown to all. Guide our steps, Holy God, as we turn our hearts to you. Be with us now as we pray in the spirit of Jesus, saying: Heavenly Father, Heavenly Mother, Holy and blessed is your true name. We pray for your reign of peace to come, We pray that your good will be done, Let heaven and earth become one. Give us this day the bread we need, Give it to those who have none. Let forgiveness flow like a river between us, From each one to each one. Lead us to holy innocence, Beyond the evil of our days — Come swiftly Mother, Father, come. For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:

Forever, your name is All in One. Amen.

Musical Offering

*"Sing Alleluia, Sing"*

Chancel Choir

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*

### Reflecting & Praying

Scripture Readings

Luke 17:11-19

Pew Bible p. 955

Timothy 2:8-15

Pew Bible p. 1084

Sermon

*"Unchaining the Spirit Within Us"*

Derek Waldron

Meditative Moment

Prayer Preparation

*"Nada te Turbe"* (Nothing Can Trouble) # 772 Taize

*Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.*

*Those who seek God shall never go wanting. (repeat)*

*God alone fills us.*

**Pastoral Prayer** (Yellow prayer cards may be placed in the offering plate. Also you may go to the Church's website click on Prayer Wall and post your requests. [www.laconiaucc.org](http://www.laconiaucc.org))

Prayer Response

*"A Prayer for Peace"*

Chancel Choir

### Committing

Invitation to Stewardship

Offertory

*"Draw Us In The Spirit's Tether"*

Chancel Choir

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 Consecration/Dedication (Unison)

Gracious God, all that we are and all that we are able to do in this world comes from the many blessings you have bestowed upon us. We offer up all that we are able and ask that you help guide us to continue using these gifts to further your holy work in this church and this community. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

### Going to Serve

\*Closing Hymn

*"Like a Tree beside the Waters"* # 313 (words) tune HYFRYDOL

Pastoral Benediction

Benediction Response

*"Go in Peace"*

Organ Postlude

## **This Week's Committee Meetings and Gatherings**

Today Oct 13- 9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m.	Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
11:45 a.m.	Hand-Bell Practice
4:00 p.m.	Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
9:30 p.m.	Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
Tuesday Oct 15- 9:45 a.m.	Blood Pressure Clinic - Parish House
1:00 & 6:00 p.m.	Embracing an Adult Faith Study
7:00 p.m.	Stitches of Love
Wednesday Oct 16- 6:30 p.m.	Council Mtg
Thursday Oct 17- 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
Friday Oct 18-19	Pumpkin Fest
Next Sunday Oct 20- 9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship

## **Some Announcements**

**Tuesday October 15 at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

**Embracing an Adult Faith** in the library

Every Tuesday in October we will gather for a five week study written by Marcus Borg. This video based series explores what it means to be Christian. There are few books available in the office for \$18, or you can order your own. Scholarships available.

### **Friday & Saturday Pumpkin Fest**

Come enjoy warm cider, homemade specialty pumpkin rolls [like a Swiss roll but not chocolate], cookies and more! You can find the pumpkin roll recipe in the News Blast. Let Hollis or anyone on Parish Activities know if you'd like to contribute to this tasty fund raiser 512.940.6592

**Did you know . . .** That there are often 6 or more pages to Tower Tidings? And that if you're not viewing all the pages online you're missing out on all the news worthy to print! To remedy this simply scroll down to the bottom of the front page of Tower Tidings and right below Pastor Neil's letter you will need to click on the Download Document button. And Voila! It's like magic. You will have the entire newsletter. Enjoy!

## Welcome & Information

*Church office is closed Monday October 14 due to Columbus Day!  
Welcome to our service of worship! Please introduce yourself to those sitting  
near you. Use a pew card to inform us of any prayer requests.*

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

**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.** Please speak to one of our ushers if you have any concerns.

**The Altar Flowers today** are *"In loving memory of Mom and Dad"* given by Hollis and Greg Thompson.

**The rose** on the altar this morning is given by Elizabeth Howard in memory of her brother, David E. Howard. His laughter, energy and pure love for living continue to inspire those who knew him.

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

October 13, 2019

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

## Planting Life

### *Access Sunday and Disabilities Awareness Week*

The Rev. Sarah Lund has been called as the United Church of Christ's first Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice. What inspires her about this role? The Rev. Lund says, "The UCC's commitment to disabilities and mental health justice drew me to this position. I am excited to support the UCC as we seek to live out our commitments to be A2A (Accessible to All) and WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. I am inspired to work with lay leaders and clergy, supporting their efforts to reflect the extravagant love of God in Jesus Christ.

I enjoy the inspiring people I am honored to get to know doing this work. One of the main things I do is build relationships with pastors, lay leaders, Conference Ministers, National Staff colleagues, seminarians, and members of the wider community as we share stories about how our lives are shaped by disabilities and mental health justice.

The temptation in the church is to think of disabilities and mental health justice as a side issue. It is challenging and critical to think of disabilities and mental health justice as part of every other justice issue. There is great opportunity in the places of intersectionality and that is where we are excited to explore moving forward. For example, as we continue to engage the whole church in our Sacred Conversations to End Racism, we can include in that conversation how disabilities and mental health justice intersect with racism.

Inviting churches to seek justice with people who live with disabilities and mental health diagnoses is important because it is what Jesus calls us to do. Jesus' teachings call us to love our neighbors and loving our neighbors means seeking justice for people who live with disabilities and mental health challenges.

The UCC has a strong history of supporting disabilities and mental health justice through the work of its ministers and congregations. We celebrate the important role of UCC minister Rev. Harold Wilke, a person with a disability who was a disability rights pioneer and activist involved in the passage of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). We also celebrate the wider church's commitment at the 25th General Synod in the adoption of the resolution 'Called to Wholeness in Christ: Becoming a Church Accessible to All.' We celebrate that at the 31st General Synod the wider church adopted the resolution to be WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. The challenge that these celebrations offer is the opportunity and responsibility of the ongoing work."

To find out more about how you can be engaged in this vital ministry, contact [lunds@ucc.org](mailto:lunds@ucc.org).

