

# Congregational Church of Laconia

## United Church of Christ

### Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 a.m. July 18, 2021

#### In-Person and Live Stream Worship

*Face masks are optional for those who have been vaccinated.*

*Safe Distancing will be practiced in the Sanctuary.*

*“The problem of reconciliation in our country and in our churches is much too big to be wrestled to the ground by plans that begin in the minds of men.*

*This is a God-sized problem.  
It is one that only the church,  
through the power of the Holy  
Spirit, can heal.”*



—Dr. John M. Perkins, *ONE BLOOD*

#### Welcome, Announcements and Lighting of the Christ Candle

#### Call to Worship (Congregation respond with the **Bold** print.)

We gather in the name of Jesus Christ—  
members of God’s family, and brothers and sisters to one another.

**There are no outsiders here among us,  
no one has any special standing or bragging rights.**

For we have been brought together by the redeeming love of Jesus.

**Let's join together in worship!**

**Hymn**     *"Enter, Rejoice, and Come In"*   # 73 New Century Hymnal

**Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.**

**Today will be a joyful day: enter, rejoice, and come in.**

**Open yourself to the song. Open yourself to the song.**

**Today will be a joyful day: enter, rejoice, and come in.**

**Open your hearts everyone. Open your hearts everyone.**

**Today will be a joyful day: enter, rejoice, and come in.**

**Don't be afraid of some change. Don't be afraid of some change.**

**Today will be a joyful day: enter, rejoice, and come in.**

**Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.**

**Today will be a joyful day: enter, rejoice, and come in.**

**Invocation and Prayer of Our Savior**

**Almighty God,**

**you have built your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,**

**Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone.**

**Join us together in unity of spirit by their teaching,**

**that we may become a holy temple, acceptable to you:**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and forever. We continue our prayer in the spirit and example**

**taught by Jesus to his disciples:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come, your 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.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Musical Offering**   *"Shadow and Substance"*   Jaylene Bengtson, soprano

**Scripture Reading**   Ephesians 2: 11-22

**Message**           *"Build Us Up"*

**Musical Reflection**   *"The Gift of Love"*   Jaylene Bengtson, soprano

## Pastoral Prayer with Shared Joys and Concerns

Hymn *"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"* # 400 NCH

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,  
Chosen of our God and precious, binding all the Church in one;  
Holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you, come O God of Hosts today!  
With your constant, loving kindness hear your people as they pray.  
Give your fullest benediction: grace to follow Christ the Way.

Here renew your servants' vision, that by faith they may attain  
Peace and hope, renewed compassion, strength to comfort those in pain,  
Tears and grief transformed to gladness in your everlasting reign.

## Benediction

Parting Song *"Go Now in Peace"*

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.  
May the love of God surround you  
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

## Postlude



This morning's Altar flowers are shared with us by Ila Mattila  
in loving memory of her husband Gary Mattila.

Stay tuned after the Postlude for short video of photos from  
Pastor Neil's trip to St. John on the Lake (Bear Island)



## ***Announcements***

### **Church office hours**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9 AM – 3 PM

### **Welcome to our Live Stream and In-person Worship!**

**We would like to acknowledge in the service the presence of our on-line worshippers, if you are comfortable with this and would allow us to do so, let us know through chat that you are watching.**

Also let the Church Office know if we can help you in any way! 603-524-0668.

[churchoffice@laconiaucc.org](mailto:churchoffice@laconiaucc.org) or [neil@laconiaucc.org](mailto:neil@laconiaucc.org)

Seeking to be the church God desires for us to be!

**Prayer Requests:** Watching online? Be sure to *post prayers as early as possible in the comment area of the YouTube page*. In order for Pastor Neil to share them, they need to be received **before the end of the sermon**. Worshipping in Person, please use one of the yellow prayer cards from the pew rack and hand it to whoever is monitoring our live stream for the morning. Also, you may post your prayers on the Prayer Wall on the website and throughout the week, please remember to contact Pastor Neil if you have needs to share. While we may not be able to be together and pray by your side physically, we do want to be in prayer with you.



Wonderful newly hand-crafted boxes have been placed at each of the entrances for you to leave any gift or offering you have for the mission and programs of our church. You may also continue to mail in your gifts to the Church office 18 Veterans Square, Laconia, NH 03246 or contact Carolyn Jorgensen 603-524-0668 ext. 224 about Electronic Fund Transfer. (EFT)

**From your Financial Secretary: “On-line donations”**

Some of you had questions on your Donation Statements that I sent out last week regarding on-line donations. We use a 'third party' on-line donation company on our Church's website. If you use this service, please be aware there is a transaction fee of 2.9% plus .30 cents. This is not a charge from the church.

If you paid \$100 on this site, the Church would receive \$96.80.  
The \$96.80 is what will reflect on your donation statement.

To avoid these fees, you can send money directly to the office by check or you can set up a one-time payment directly through your bank. Should you have any questions or need assistance please feel free to contact me at the office or email me at [Carolyn@LaconiaUCC.org](mailto:Carolyn@LaconiaUCC.org).  
Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn R Jorgensen, Financial Secretary  
603.524.0668 x 224