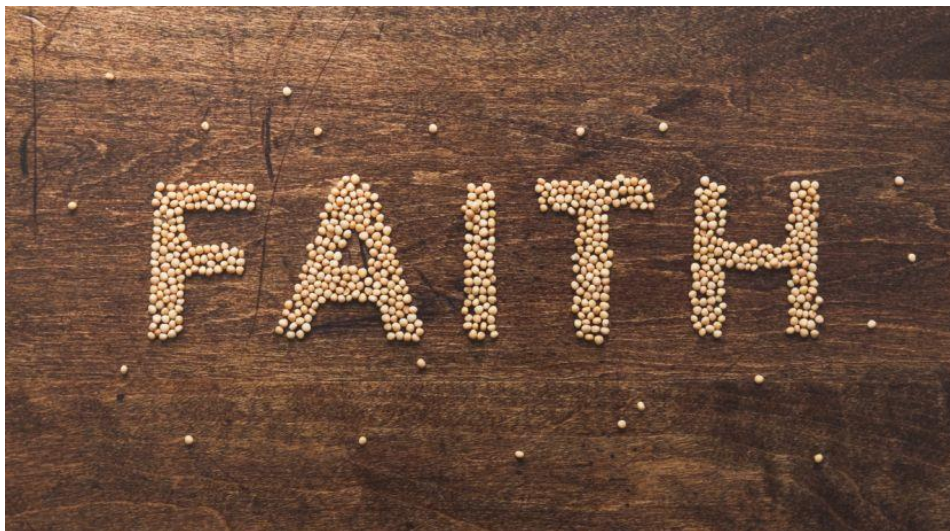


Congregational Church of Laconia United Church of Christ

In-Person and Live Stream Worship

*Face masks are optional. Please check today's Covid Signal.
Social distancing is still encouraged.*



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.

August 7, 2022

Meditation Moment:

"If fear is cultivated it will become stronger, if faith is cultivated it will achieve mastery" - John Paul Jones, Captain Continental Navy

*Indicates where you may stand as able or desire.

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements and Lighting of the Christ Candle

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

Happy are those whose hope is in God, maker of heaven and earth--
for God keeps faith forever!

God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food for the hungry.
God sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.

God lifts up those who are bowed down.

God watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow.

People of God, sing praise to the One who is your help—
for God keeps faith forever!

* **Hymn** *“Faith of the Martyrs”* (vs. 1,3,4) # 381 New Century Hymnal

**Faith of the martyrs, living still in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
 O how our hearts beat high with joy,
 when we recall their faith’s reward:**

(Refrain)

Faith of the martyrs, living faith! We would be true in life and death.

**Faith of the martyrs! We will love both friend and foe in peace or strife;
 And sow the seeds of hope and faith
 By strengthening word and fearless life:**

(Refrain)

**Faith of the martyrs! Faith and prayer shall long outlive sin’s tyranny;
 And through the truth that comes from God
 All humankind shall then be free:**

(Refrain)

Prayer of Invocation and Prayer of our Savior (Unison)

**O Living God, give us faith to be sure of what we hope for,
 and certain of what we do not see;
 to believe that you are,
 and that you reward those who truly seek you:
 that may we please you and receive what you have promised.
 We pray in the name of Jesus our Savior and Sovereign,
 who taught to pray:
 Our Father, who art in heaven,
 holy is 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 our sins
 as we forgive those who have sinned against us.
 Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
 For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Special Music *“Wade in the Water”* (Spiritual/arr. Phil Breton)
 Phil Breton, Piano

Scripture Reading Hebrews 11: 29 – 12:2

Message *“Transforming Faith”*

Musical Reflection *“Cantabile”* (Vincenzo Bellini)
Phil Breton, Oboe Bob Bengtson, Organ

Sharing of our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Sacrament of Holy Communion (adapted from the Uniting Church of Australia)

Invitation

At this table whether in the sanctuary of our homes, summer cottages or this space in our church building, we celebrate the brightness of community and the summer season.
We give thanks for and seek a presence and a spirit.

Men: *At this table we give thanks for friends and strangers.*

Women: At this table we welcome old and young.

All are invited. Come, as we prepare the meal.

Communion Prayer

May God be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Holy One.

Let us give thanks

It is right to give thanks and praise.

God of the summer's day and the (holiday) season,

Praise and wonder be.

God of the lingering sunset and early dawn,

Praise and wonder be.

God of the hot south wind and the refreshing shower,
God of the shady tree and the cool mountain streams,
God of the ripening harvest and sparkling sea,

Show to us beauty, vision, and joy.

All creation blesses the Source of Energy and Life.

For all things bright and beautiful. For all things dark and mysterious and lovely.

For all things green and growing and strong.

For all things weak and struggling to push life up through rocky earth.

For all human faces, hearts, minds, and hands which surround us.

And for all non-human minds and hearts, paws and claws, fins, and wings...

Praise and wonder be.

So, we join our praise with all your people across the generations, saying
**Holy, holy, holy, Celebrating God, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessing

**Be present with us now, Enfolding God, as we share this sacrament.
 Let your Holy Spirit brood among us... and upon and through this Bread and Wine.
 Bless us with a desire to praise in song and story and poetry.
 Bless us with a sharpened awareness of your presence.
 Bless us with deep compassion.
 Bless us with the patience and daring of the mystics.**

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Thanksgiving

**For the spirit of serving and sharing, for the Presence sensed and the spirit glimpsed,
 we give thanks to you, Holy One.
 May this Spirit, Presence, sharing and serving not end with the Benediction
 but be carried by each of us into the rest of this summer with all its sunshine and showers,
 leisurely afternoons, and busy mornings. For the Presence and Spirit of Christ we have known
 here cannot be contained in our rituals and forms. Amen.**

*** Hymn *"Lead On Eternal Sovereign"* # 573 New Century Hymnal**

**Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow in your way;
 loud rings your cry for justice your call for peace this day:
 through prayerful preparation, your grace will make us strong,
 To carry on the struggle to triumph over wrong.**

**Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow not with fear,
 for any human conflict, your words of strength that we hear:
 That when we serve with gladness, you will not let us fall,
 Our trust is in your promise that love will conquer all.**

**Lead on eternal Sovereign, till sin's face war shall cease,
 and all your Saints together will sing hymn of peace;
 Then all in your dominion will live with hearts set free,
 to love and serve each other for all eternity.**

*** Benediction**

Postlude



**Today's Altar flowers are given by Janet Janke.
In honor of all my grandchildren**

Clergy: Rev. Neil Wilson
 Director of Music: Bob Bengtson
 Worship Assistant: Lorraine Barrows
 Media Technician: Mike Marshall
 Greeters: John Walker & Muff Kruse

Announcements

Church office hours

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9 AM – 3 PM

Welcome to our Live Stream and In-person Worship!

Today's Covid Signal

Also, we ask that you respect those with whom you are worshipping. If you see someone wearing a mask, allow them a safe distance. They are taking an extra precaution please give them a little more space. Thank You!



Face masks are highly recommended.

Face masks are optional. Exercise caution.

Face masks are optional.

So, watch for the Covid-19 Signal in our News Blasts and on our livestream's streaming announcements. We will **bold** the descriptor that fits for each Sunday. ***This week, we are in the "green!" Praise God!***

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 or 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**. 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.

Offering

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)



Welcome to our Church. We are glad you are here.





We meet once a month on the second Sunday for Faith Formation for all school age children. Our multi-age group is a good opportunity to learn from each other and build relationships with other young people in the Church. The next day that we are meeting is **Sunday, August 14th** and we hope to see you there!

**Laconia Multicultural Festival
20TH FESTIVAL CELEBRATION
SEPTEMBER 10, 2022 10 AM to 3 PM**



The festival, held at Rotary Park and City Hall, highlights the music, arts, crafts, and cuisine of our diverse community from our earliest days to recently arrived New Americans. The festival was conceived and is supported by the Laconia Human Relations Committee as well as many local business and personal sponsors.

<https://laconiamulticulturalfestival.org/>

The festival is free to all, but we can only exist with donations, sponsors, and participation from the community.

If you can join the team or would like more information, please see Becky Guyer, 603-520-5084 at beckyg@metrocast.net or Janet Simmon.

**Many hands are needed to produce this great event!
Come, join the fun.**