

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LACONIA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MAY 3, 2026 9:30 A.M.

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING AND JUST PEACE CHURCH



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REV. ELIZA TWEEDY, PASTOR
K. ROBERT BENGTON, ORGANIST

wilderness with the angel who spoke to him at Mount Sinai and with our ancestors, and he received living oracles to give to us. "Our ancestors were unwilling to obey him; instead, they pushed him aside, and in their hearts they turned back to Egypt, "saying to Aaron, 'Make gods for us who will lead the way for us; as for this Moses who led us out from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him.' "At that time they made a calf, offered a sacrifice to the idol, and reveled in the works of their hands.

"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. "Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. "You are the ones who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it." "When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen.¹⁴ "But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. " "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"¹⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. "Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. "While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." "Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Sermon

Prayers of the People

Call to Offering

Offertory

***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**

Bless us, O God of all, and all that we dedicate to your service. For our hands and our hearts, with which we care for those who are hurting and comfort all that suffers; for the time and attention we bring to your image in forms and bodies unlike our own; for the treasure that we give in acknowledgement that we have nothing apart from you and the blessings you have bestowed upon this world. May we live into your creative Spirit with humility and grace, showing your love to all the world. Amen.

****Hymn**

Blue Boat Home

Insert

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Postlude

****adapted from a prayer in the United Church of Christ's **Worship Ways Archive**.**

*****adapted from a prayer written by the Very Rev. Dr. Sheilagh Kesting. <http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>**

Alter Flowers In celebration of flowers ready to bloom, Given by Cindy Carter

**Please Stand in body or in spirit*

Coffee Hour hosted by Educational Ministries

Book Club will meet on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 1pm

Women's Breakfast May 20th, 8:30AM at the Water Street Cafe

Men's Breakfast May 15th, 8:00 AM at the Water Street Café

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of the church!



<https://www.laconiaucc.org/giving/>

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