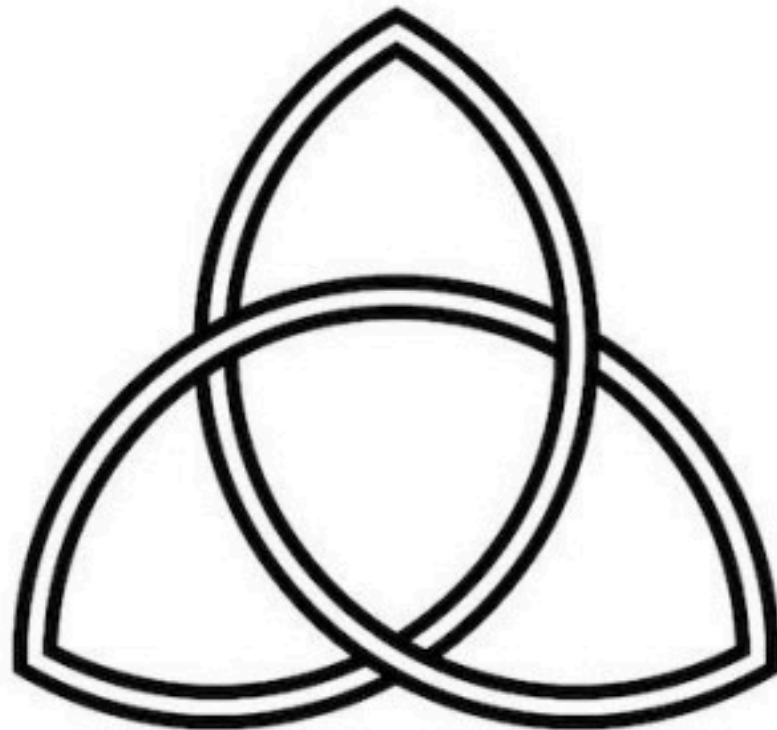


CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LACONIA
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MAY 31, 2026 9:30 A.M.

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING AND JUST PEACE CHURCH



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

18 VETERANS SQUARE, LACONIA NH 03246
603-524-0668

CHURCHOFFICE@LACONIAUCC.ORG

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey
You are welcome in this place.

Introit **Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship**

Let us worship the Triune God.

Let us worship the One who spoke in the beginning and created something out of nothing.

Let us worship the Triune God.

Let us worship the One who took on the clothing of humanity to set those who were oppressed free.

Let us worship the Triune God.

Let us worship the One whose Spirit rests continually upon us, calling us from sorrow-filled endings to bright new beginnings.

***Hymn 275** **Come Now, Almighty God**

Prayer of Invocation***

O Divine Voice,

You sing and the universe comes into being;

O Divine Breath,

You breathe and all things spring to life;

O Divine Word,

You call and creation is sustained;

O Divine Flesh,

You are born among us,

and the Creator is clothed in creation;

O Divine Spirit,

You fill all that has been formed;

O Divine Life,

You are the pulse of all that is.

And so, in amazement and awe, in wonder and celebration
we marvel at this mystery:

In you all things live and move and have being,

In all things, you live and move and express your Divine artistry.

**You are in us and with us, body and spirit, now and eternally,
to you we give all thanks and praise. Amen.**

Anthem **May the Road Rise to Meet You**

Lori True

Recognition of Chuck Laurent on his Retirement

Words and Gratitude

Prayer of Blessing

Holy God, we give thanks for all of the time that we have shared together in service, in conversation, and in faith. We give thanks for the movement of your Holy Spirit, that called Chuck to his work with this congregation, and to his care for the places in which we worship, and gather, and connect in community. Guide us all in this transition, as we honor Chuck's retirement and support him in the months and years to come. All of this we pray in the name of the Risen Christ. Amen.

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

“Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. “When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. “And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit “and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Sermon

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Our Savior

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 us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Recognition of our Volunteers

Insert

Offertory

We Are One in the Spirit

Peter Scholtes

***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**

Generous One, may these all that we bring before you be blessing to those in need, a source of hope for those in despair, comfort for those who grieve, freedom for those constrained, a balm for those in pain. May our generosity reflect our gratitude and our giving be another source of praise. Amen.

Hymn 277

Holy, Holy, Holy

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Hold Us in Your Grace

Postlude

Voluntary in E Minor

John Stanley

Born in London, Stanley (1712-1786) was age 7 when he began studying music with Maurice Greene, organist and composer at St. Paul's Cathedral. At the age of eleven he was appointed organist to All Hallows Church, and at 17 he was the youngest ever to earn the Bachelor of Music degree from Oxford University. A brilliant organist and an outstanding violinist, he attracted the attention of George Frideric Handel who frequently made it a priority to hear him play. Among numerous prominent positions, Stanley was appointed Master of the King's Band of Musicians in 1779, and in 1782 organist of Chapel Royal. He was a major English composer of the late Baroque and early Classical periods.

**Please Stand in body or in spirit*

****written by Rev. J. Lee Hill, and posted on the **Worship Ways** page of the **United Church of Christ** website.**

*****adapted from a prayer posted on **Third Space**. <http://third-space.org.uk/>**

Altar Flowers Remembering and honoring all who gave their lives for our country
Given by Marilyn and Dave Lynch

Coffee Hour hosted by Worship and Music

Book Club – June 24th 1p.m. in the Library to discuss *Playground* by Richard Powers

Women's Breakfast June 17th, 8:30AM at the Water Street Cafe

Men's Breakfast June 11th & 25th, 8:00 AM at the Water Street Café

Donate here for the mission and ministry
of the church!



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

Did you hear something you want to
revisit? Or share? Find us on YouTube!



<https://bit.ly/LacoCongoLive>